

Yellowstone Art Museum turns 50

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May/June 2014

Montana - The Land of Creativity

Providing information to all Montanans through funding by the National Endowment for the Arts and the State of Montana

MAC NOTES

New Montana's Cultural Treasures now available

This guide to art galleries, museums, bookstores and theatres is produced annually by the Montana Arts Council, Montana Office of Tourism, Montana Historical Society and Lee Enterprises.

Montana's Cultural Treasures is distributed to arts entities around the state through the end of May and can be found at galleries, museums, and Certified Folder Display racks at hotels, motels, visitor centers and airports. You can also request copies at www.montanasculturaltreasures.com.



Cultural Trust guidelines

Cultural Trust Guidelines are now available at www.art.mt.gov/orgs/orgs_ca.asp.

Applications must be for cultural and aesthetic projects including, but not limited to, the visual, performing, literary and media arts, history, archaeology, folklore, archives, collections, research, historic preservation and the construction or renovation of cultural facilities. Applications are encouraged for projects serving rural communities, racial and ethnic groups, people with disabilities, institutionalized populations, youth and the aging.

The application deadline is Aug. 1.

The Art of Leadership

Audience-building webinars coming up

Socialize with us! (moderated panel discussion)
Tuesday, May 20, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Join us for a roundtable discussion featuring three arts organizations that are successfully using social media to connect with their audiences. Alpine Theatre Company's

Luke Walrath, Alberta Bair Theater's Jody Grant and the Archie Bray Foundation's Rachel Hicks will continue the discussion that is featured in this issue, "Social Media and the Arts," on pages 20-22.

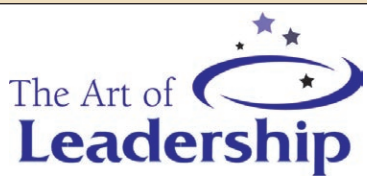
Website is key to telling GSC story

Wednesday, June 18, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

In this webinar we'll feature Kalispell's Glacier Symphony and Chorale's website with Executive Director Alan Satterlee leading the conversation. This successful website is the primary gateway for someone to get familiar with the organization. It's easy to navigate, and highly presentable. It provides quick, up-to-date access to GSC programs with highly visible click-through for ticket purchases. Take a peek at www.gscmusic.org.

Log-in instructions on MAC's website

You can join in easily to MAC's free webinars. Two weeks before each session, log-on links and instructions will be posted on MAC's website, art.mt.gov.



Jane Chu nominated to head NEA

President Obama has nominated Dr. Jane Chu, president and chief executive officer of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Kansas City, MO, to lead the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

"Chu not only has a background in the arts, she has a reputation for managerial excellence and vision," writes *The Washington Post*.

The announcement comes as welcome news to arts advocates who have been concerned about the lack of an appointment to lead the agency, which has been without a head since Rocco Landesman stepped down in December 2012.

"Dr. Chu brings the valuable perspectives of multi-arts understanding, top management skills, and deep philanthropic knowledge to the position," writes Robert Lynch of Americans for the Arts. "She is trained as an artist but has also worked successfully as manager of complex business enterprises. This is a valuable mix, important to our nation's key public sector arts position."



Dr. Jane Chu (Photo courtesy of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts)

"She has spoken publicly about the importance of bringing the broadest array of America's arts riches to the broadest spectrum of the American people and has done so in her work in Kansas City. She understands the value of art at the community level and how the arts are transformative to individuals as well as places."

The timing of a possible confirmation for Chu is unclear. The nominee will meet privately with members of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, which has jurisdiction over the NEA, to discuss her vision for the agency.

Should those meetings go well, recent history indicates that her nomination could bypass a hearing by the

committee and go straight to the floor for consideration by the Senate. Recent confirmations of NEA heads have taken three to four months, but because this announcement comes after most cabinet posts have been filled, it is possible she could win approval on a faster timetable.

— Courtesy of Isaac Brown, Lobbyist, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

Helen Elliott: Retired but still a force for PAC

Reprinted with permission

From the *Independent Observer*, March 17

After many years steering the Pondera Arts Council, Helen Elliott had decided that it was time for someone else to provide leadership for the PAC. At the elections of officers at the last PAC board meeting, Tim Toeset was elected president and accepted the gavel from Elliott at the March meeting.

In remembering her many years as president, she recalls seemingly incredible events that have transformed a group of concerned citizens into the Pondera Arts Council. It all started over lunch one day in 1998 when a group of individuals decided to pursue bringing public radio to Conrad.

Philip Aaberg provided the entertainment for the kick-

off fundraising concert. Miraculously, and with help from many people, over \$10,000 was raised and Yellowstone Public Radio (91.3 FM) began broadcasting to Conrad and the surrounding area. Mission accomplished.

But that was only the beginning. The group, under Elliott's leadership, started looking for another project and, at some point, began calling itself the Pondera Arts Council. It was noted that there was no grand piano of any size in Conrad, so there were no piano concerts.

Once again, the group set out to raise funds and, with the help of the Montana Arts Council, was able to purchase a grand piano, which was placed at the Catholic

See Helen Elliott on page 2

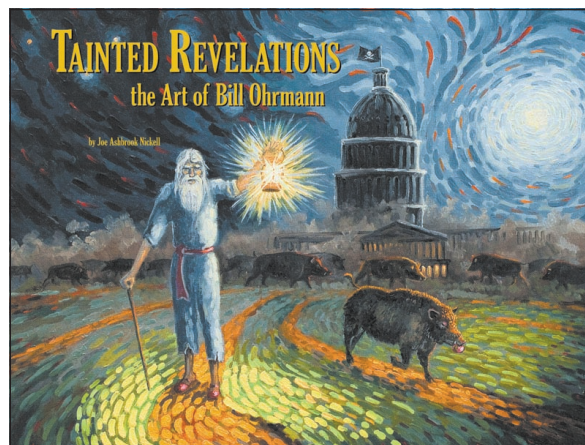
Book, retrospective celebrate Bill Ohrmann

Painter and sculptor Bill Ohrmann has been celebrated as a "Montana Living Treasure" by the Montana Arts Council. His response? "I suppose I'm just glad I'm living."

Now 95 years old, the former rancher from Drummond might qualify as an elder of the Northwest arts community, but for this: He only began seriously painting when he retired in 1996.

Since then, he has produced hundreds of canvases that explore his blistering criticism of the modern West and the world at large. Ohrmann's paintings are by turns wry, apocalyptic, horrifying and hilarious. They are bound together by his direct, almost illustrative painting style and his impassioned concern for the plight of oppressed creatures and cultures of the earth.

In *Tainted Revelations: The Art of Bill Ohrmann*, Missoula author Joe Ashbrook Nickell maps out the broad landscape of Ohrmann's oeuvre, communing along the way with the cavemen and future-men, tigers and mice, neighbors and nymphs who speak their truths through the painter's brush.



"Bill Ohrmann is the Charlie Russell of latter-day Montana," says Nickell, a two-time NEA Arts Journalism Institute fellow and the former arts reporter for the *Missoulian*. "In his work, we see the beauty and the brutality

of this land, the mythology and the madness of its people. This is important work that will resonate and influence western artists for decades to come."

The 140-page hardcover book features more than 100 full-color reproductions of Ohrmann's work, eloquently illuminating the artist's singular worldview.

In conjunction with the book's publication, the Missoula Art Museum will host a retrospective exhibit

of Ohrmann's work, June 6-Oct. 12, with a reading and reception slated for 5-8 p.m. June 19.

While MAM has featured a solo exhibition of Ohrmann's paintings in the past, "Tainted Revelations" will serve more as a survey of the artist's multi-faceted approach to his practice. In addition to paintings, the retrospective includes many sculptures, including a large steel-fabricated work displayed outside.

For more information, visit missoulaartmuseum.org.



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Sign up for MAC's eNews

Between the bi-monthly issues of the *State of the Arts*, our staff publishes four separate e-newsletters with opportunities and information:

- Artists' email newsletter
- Arts Educators' email newsletter
- Arts Organizations' email newsletter
- Public Artists' email newsletter

Our eNews contain information that has deadlines that are too short to make the *State of the Arts*. If you'd like to sign-up for one or more of these, please offer us your contact information and what you'd like to receive at: art.mt.gov/resources/resources_soasubscribe.asp or send us an email at: mac@mt.gov.

ARNI'S ADDENDUM

Arlynn Fishbaugh, Executive Director
afishbaugh@mt.gov



Transitions: *Thank you Jonathan!*

There never seems to be a let-up in the transition news the Montana Arts Council hears about changing leadership among Montana's arts organizations. We work with and fund these organizations, and the relationships developed over the years has made our agency stronger for the learning we have undergone with them and the expertise the agency has shared with new directors through thick and thin.

Last week, I received news about a transition on the national level that I want to bring to your attention. Posted below is the email I received from Jonathan Katz, CEO of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA), which is the national service organization for the nation's state arts councils, located in Washington, DC.

I would like to tell everyone in Montana how important Jonathan has been to all of us involved in the arts in Montana – whether your involvement is as an artist or an arts educator or being part of an arts organization.

During my first week on this job in November 1992, I received a letter from Jonathan welcoming me to this position. His was a familiar name to me. During the time I spent with the Houston Grand Opera's touring division, Texas Opera Theater, in 1977-'78, Jonathan was the executive director of the Kansas Arts Commission. Texas Opera toured the western half of the country, and so Jonathan provided me with great resources for booking the company with presenters in Kansas.

It's always so fun to have that full-circle connection made, and his letter was one of the most welcoming gestures I received when I stepped into these new shoes in Helena, having moved back home to Montana in 1990.

Through NASAA, Jonathan created a national service organization that has been incredibly important to the survival and thriving of state arts agencies across the country. He has on board an amazing staff that has been invaluable to us in so many instances, some of which

I'll mention below.

He has built a structure within the organization that allows it to be nimble and responsive, helpful and invaluable, visionary and protective. It is an organization that serves us continually as a leadership-training ground, where we learn best practices and trends, and are continually inspired, renewed and refreshed while operating in what can be a highly fractious and stressful political environment.

One of the resources that has been enormously valuable to Montana is in the area of strategic planning. NASAA has a great website section on planning, which readers who are involved in this work may find helpful, at

www.nasaa-arts.org/Research/Planning-and-Accountability/Strategic-Planning-Resource-Center/index.php.

During times when the arts council was under political attack to eliminate, privatize or consolidate our agency, the NASAA staff provided remarkable assistance in how to approach these challenges. Because they have a bead on every single state in the country, they have a wealth of knowledge and tools other states have used successfully in similar situations. I can't tell you how many times Carleen Layne, our accountant, or I would call them with some emergency, and we'd have the answer immediately!

In essence, Jonathan built this national service organization into one in which his staff could serve as our ancillary staff for specific needs. This was not only true for emergency interventions, but for all the research NASAA has conducted and shared with us.

Jonathan also was a stalwart advocate for bipartisan support for federal funding of state arts agencies. Unlike some of the other national arts service organizations, which sometimes have a leaning toward one political perspective, Jonathan led NASAA in such a way that we always knew that our work had to have the support of

all political parties, regardless of their agendas on other issue fronts.

This is especially critical when it comes to funding for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the portion of their budget that goes to state arts agencies. Forty percent of the NEA's program budget goes to state arts agencies, and Montana is very reliant on this funding as it provides about half of our annual budget, which we use for all the programs offered by the agency. In fact, *State of the Arts* is funded primarily through this appropriation from the NEA.

Because I had the high honor of serving as the president of NASAA's Board of Directors during the last two years, I had the privilege of working very closely with Jonathan on all the issues impacting the NEA and facing state arts councils. I have learned so much from him, the board of directors and the staff ... lessons that have helped advance the mission of the Montana Arts Council and ensure that we're continually working to prove our public merit and be in touch with, and firmly connected to, the people we serve.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Jonathan on behalf all of us in Big Sky Country for the support he has given to us throughout the years, his tireless commitment to improving our situation and inspiring us to be the best we can possibly be.

I hope *State of the Arts* readers will join me in showing how expansive our appreciation is from us all in the Last Best Place. His email is jonathan.katz@nasaa-arts.org.

Jonathan Katz: Taking stock and looking ahead

As I celebrate my 29th year as NASAA's CEO, I'm writing to share with you that I plan to end my tenure as NASAA's CEO at Assembly 2014 in New Orleans this November.

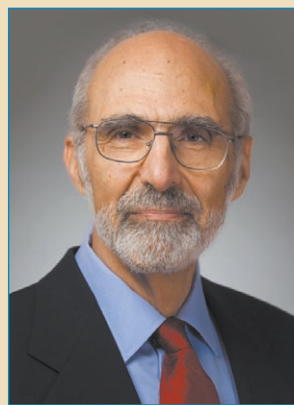
It has been my great privilege to serve as your CEO during the last three decades – a period of many transformations in the arts, among state arts agencies and at NASAA. Working with you gives me enormous personal pleasure and profound professional satisfaction – so much so that I've effortlessly postponed putting more energy into what has now become a demanding writing agenda.

Also, my enjoyment of leadership development and strategic planning has never stopped growing. I'd like to invest more time and creativity in those pursuits in the future.

In the meantime, I am committed to working with NASAA's elected leaders and staff to maintain progress and ensure a smooth transition. NASAA's governance is strong; its staff – as well you know – is amazingly capable, productive and adaptable; and its members are smart, creative, resilient leaders. The occasion to take stock, look ahead and select the CEO who, with your support, will lead NASAA to its next level of accomplishment represents a wonderful opportunity. As I look ahead to new opportunities for myself, I look ahead to the new opportunities for NASAA that my successor will bring.

I have much to be thankful for and more of you to thank than I will be able to reach on any single occasion. So please forgive me if I thank you more than once. Beginning now, and through the NASAA annual gathering in New Orleans this fall, I hope I can express to you how grateful I am for the many gifts that are mine and Terri's because of your personal and professional support.

With great affection and appreciation,



Jonathan Katz (Photo by Matthew Rakola)

Jonathan

Helen Elliott (from page 1)

Church. The church was most gracious, and several concerts were held there.

In 2001 another great opportunity presented itself: a chance to purchase the derelict and closed Orpheum Theatre. Again, a miracle. PAC was able to raise the funds and purchased the building and put on a new roof.

To remodel the wreck, PAC was able to obtain a grant from the Wiegand Foundation of Reno. After "sweat and tears" and a huge campaign, the Orpheum reopened to movies and concerts. Subsequently, the grand piano has taken up home at the Orpheum.

Then, 10 years later, another \$65,000 was raised to get into the digital age so Conrad could continue to show movies.

Elliott cannot begin to show her undying gratitude to all the workers and visionaries, from the beginning to now, who have helped keep the arts alive in Conrad. "My sincere appreciation to this wonderful community that has supported the activities of the PAC over the years. The Orpheum wouldn't exist without you," she said.

But Elliott isn't done. She still plans to "hang in there" as chairman of the Concert Committee. She wants to bring a variety of entertainment to Conrad and expand the movie and concert audience.

New ideas for the PAC include an addition to the Orpheum to provide much-needed dressing rooms and restrooms for performers. The question she poses, "Is Conrad strong enough to support the arts with this future project?"

Elliott's dream is that each Conrad resident comes to at least one movie and one concert in 2014. If that would happen, according to her, "It would be beyond my wildest dreams!"



Helen Elliott's beloved Orpheum Theatre

STATE OF THE ARTS

State of the Arts is published six times a year by the Montana Arts Council and produced by *Lively Times*.

State of the Arts welcomes submissions of photographs, press releases and newsworthy information from individual artists and arts organizations.

Please check with the Montana Arts Council for reprint permission.

Deadline: The deadline for submissions is May 25, 2014, for the July/August 2014 issue. Send items to: Montana Arts Council, PO Box 202201, Helena, MT 59620-2201; phone 406-444-6430, fax 406-444-6548 or email mac@mt.gov.

Subscriptions: *State of the Arts* is available free of charge to Montana residents as a public service of the Montana Arts Council. To subscribe, please call 406-444-6430, or update or sign-up online at www.art.mt.gov. Out-of-state subscriptions at \$15 per year are welcome – mail your check to the Montana Arts Council, PO Box 202201, Helena, MT 59620.

CONGRATS TO ...

Montana artist **Carol Hartman**, whose oil painting, “Rocky Mountain Lifeorce,” was accepted into the 2013 Florence Biennale, held Nov. 30-Dec. 8 in Florence, Italy. The artist, who grew up in the farming community of Charley Creek, says the painting reflects her interpretation of the beauty of Montana, from its eastern foothills, flatlands and farming communities, to the western mountains, rivers and valleys. The Florence Biennale is one of the few international art

events structured as a self-financed independent platform for contemporary art. This year, 450 artists from more than 50 countries exhibited their work at the Fortezza da Basso. “I had the opportunity to meet and work with artists and gallery directors and art theorists from around the world,” says Hartman. “Exposure to the many ideas, concepts, techniques, and materials was extremely beneficial to my artwork.”

The Montana Department of Commerce’s Trade Show Program helped the artist attend Biennale, where she booked a solo exhibition in April 2016 at Artifact Gallery in New York. She also traveled to Venice for the Venice Biennale, to Rome, Livorno, Pisa, and the western coastal towns of the Cinque Terre, where she developed 23 new sketches that are currently on display at Juliana’s Jammin’ Gallery in Columbus. Hartman exhibits widely in Montana and beyond, and is one of the artists at Gallery 25 in Fresno, CA, whose works will be shown in the Fresno Art Museum Retrospective this fall.

Montana artist **Kevin Red Star**, who celebrated his 50th year as an artist with the exhibit “Art of the Native American: Kevin Red Star and His Friends,” on display Nov. 23-

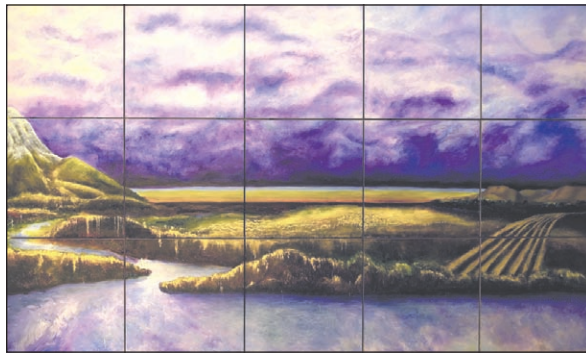
April 27 at the Owensboro Museum of Fine Art, Owensboro, KY. The exhibit was designed to showcase the contributions of contemporary Native Americans to our country’s cultural history from the last decades of the 20th century to the present. Art for this prestigious exhibit was selected by Red Star and the museum’s curatorial staff, and includes works by more than two dozen artists who were students with Red Star at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe. The 50-year commemoration continues with the release of a biography of Red Star, written by Daniel Gibson with photographs by Kitty Leaken. The coffee-table-style book, featuring paintings dating from 1968 to the present, will be unveiled at Art in the Beartooths, July 12 in Red Lodge, where Red Star and been named the 2014 Signature Artist. He is currently working toward an upcoming exhibit in Palm Desert, CA.

Bozeman artists **Susan Blackwood** and **Howard Friedland**, whose works were featured in two East Coast shows this spring. The husband-and-wife painters each had work in “Luce: The Magic of Italian Light,” which featured paintings, photography and sculpture by teachers and alumni of Il Chioistro Italian Workshops, March 28-April 2 at Site 109 Gallery in New York, and “Still Life: Floral and Still Life Show,” March 29-April 27 at Highlands Art Gallery in Lambertville, NJ.

Troy artist **Alan McNiel**, who was awarded first place in painting at the Scottsdale Arts Festival in March. This year McNiel’s paintings have also been included in the La Quinta Arts Festival in Palm Springs and auctions at the Yellowstone Art Museum in Billings, Missoula Art Museum, WaterWorks Art Museum in Miles City, and Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art and the C.M. Russell Museum, both in Great Falls.

Helena artist **Karen Luckey**, whose paintings “Rural Icon” and “Days of Yore” were juried into the 18th annual Heartland Artist Exhibition, March 1-April 5 at the Irene B French Community Center in Merriam, KS. In addition, “Hurry Up Let’s Go” and “Crab Apple Tree” were selected for the Associated Arts of Ocean Shores 2014 Juried Show in Ocean Shores, WA.

Kalispell artist **Carol McSweeney**, whose work was accepted into the American Watercolor Society International Exhibition, April 1-20 at the Salmagundi Club in New York City, and the Arizona Aqueous XXVIII 2014 Show, Feb. 7-March 9 at the Tubac Center for the Arts in Tubac, AZ. She also received the Jordan Ressler Memorial Cash Award at the San Diego Watercolor Society International Exhibition, Oct. 4-30 at the SDWS Gallery in San Diego, and her work was featured in *Southwest Art’s* Juror’s Choice issue, January 2014.



“Rocky Mountain Lifeorce” by Carol Hartman



Kevin Red Star



“Milk River Bank – Glasgow, Montana” by Alan McNiel

The **Big Sky Documentary Film Festival**, held Feb. 15-23 in Missoula, which received a \$10,000 grant from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) in support of the festival’s retrospective artist, filmmaker Robert B. Weide. Widely known for his

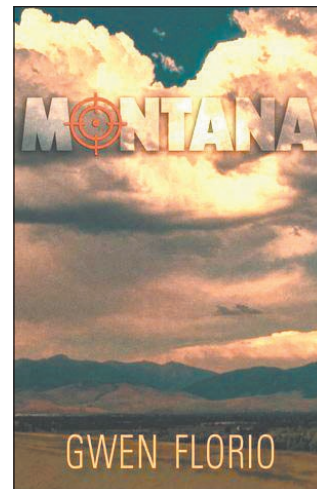
work as principal director and executive producer of HBO’s “Curb Your Enthusiasm,” Weide is an Emmy-winning and Oscar-nominated documentary filmmaker who specializes in the stories of comedy icons. This is the second time the festival has received the prestigious grant. The Academy also accepted the festival as a qualifying event for the Documentary Short Subject Award, meaning films that win the festival’s Short and Mini-Doc categories are now eligible to compete for an Oscar. “This is a tremendous honor,” said Doug Hawes-Davis, executive director of the Big Sky Film Institute.

“We’ve worked hard over the past decade to find powerful and diverse non-fiction films to present to our festival audience, and this decision by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is a direct result of those efforts. It will certainly help us raise the bar even higher for our Short and Mini-Doc competitions in the coming years.”

Warm Springs Productions in Missoula, which premiered a new reality TV series March 9 on the History Channel. “No Man’s Land” is a spin-off of the company’s popular “Mountain Men” series and features five people as they struggle against extreme desert environments. Chris Richardson, who runs the company with partner Marc Pierce, told the *Missoulian*, “It’s the polar opposite of ‘Mountain Men,’ really. It’s these guys living in extreme temperatures, as opposed to the ‘Mountain Men,’ where they are surviving in the winters.” The new show, in addition to other Warm Springs work, proves that the family friendly company can be successful without relocating to New York City or Los Angeles, he said. “We want to prove – and I think we have – that we can do things differently,” he said. Since the company began in 2008, it has grown into new custom-built offices and employs 85 people between offices in Missoula and Manhattan. “I’m pleasantly surprised, and the sky’s the limit really,” Richardson said, adding that the company has 12 series in production that have appeared on channels such as Animal Planet, A&E and the History Channel.

– From the *Missoulian*, March 8 (missoulian.com)

Missoula author **Gwen Florio**, whose debut novel, *Montana*, won one of two inaugural Pinckley Prizes for Crime Fiction, named for Diana Pinckley, longtime crime fiction columnist for *The New Orleans Times-Picayune*. The prizes were presented March 22 at the 28th annual Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival. Florio won the prize for Debut Novel. “Out of a field of excellent debut crime novels, we picked *Montana* because we completely fell in love with the main character,” wrote the judges. “It’s often difficult to pinpoint why someone is lovable. Suffice to say that Gwen Florio’s protagonist Lola fully lives on the page, and what is even more compelling about this brave, irascible character is that she continues to live after the book is closed. She’s fearless, flawed, intelligent, reckless, and funny, but most of all, she is defined by loyalty to her friend and a relentless pursuit of her killer.” The author received a \$2,500 cash award, as well as a paper rosette fashioned from the pages of her book by New Orleans artist Yuka Petz.



Polson author **Carmine “Margo” Mowbray**, whose novel, *An Answering Flame*, was selected for the 2014 Media Award from the American College of Nurse Midwives. This annual award honors a media event, book, film, or an expression of art that presents midwifery in an accurate and positive manner and in doing so helps to promote the profession of midwifery. Her novel, which was inspired by her aunt’s experiences as a nurse midwife in rural Kentucky, is credited with enhancing the “understanding of the struggles of the midwives in the hills of Appalachia.” The award will be presented at the Awards Celebration of the ACNM Annual Meeting in Denver on May 15.

Actor and writer **Leah Joki**, whose new one-woman play, “Prison Boxing,” premieres May 2-3 at the Crystal Theatre in Missoula before its debut May 10 at the Skylight Theatre Company in Los Angeles, and May 14 at the University of California, Los Angeles. Missoula’s **Linda Grinde** directs the production. In addition, the film rights to Joki’s memoir, *Juilliard to Jail*, were recently optioned by “True Blood” and “Magic Mike” star Joe Manganiello and his production company 359inc. Joki is a graduate of The University of Montana and the Juilliard School’s Drama Program. Before she was smitten by prison-theater she worked as an actor in New York and Los Angeles. Under the auspices of Arts in Corrections she taught and/or performed in almost every state prison in California during a career that spanned more than 18 years. Her book and play offer a compassionate glimpse of complex characters that reflect humanity in all its forms: from humorous to utterly horrifying.

The Hi-Line’s yodeling, singing cowboy **Wylie Gustafson** and his band, **The Wild West**, who perform with the Daughters of the Purple Sage, May 17 at the Music Center in Los Angeles. The concert is part of World City’s tribute to “Cowgirl Music, Cowboy Songs and Yodeling, American West.”

Continued on next page



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Send us your good news

Artists, writers, musicians, arts educators and arts administrators: Please let us know about major awards and accomplishments, especially beyond the borders of Montana.

Send your good news to Congrats, c/o *Lively Times*, 33651 Eagle Pass Trail, Charlo, MT 59824; or email: writeus@livelytimes.com.

If you include a digital photo, please make sure it’s at least 200 lines per inch (lpi or dpi) or file size of over 500kb (no more than 2mb, please).



Leah Joki

Congrats compiled by Kristi Niemeyer for *State of the Arts*



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Lincoln County selected for Hometown Humanities program

Humanities Montana selected Lincoln County as the site for the 2014 Hometown Humanities from a pool of very competitive applications. Jessie Pate of the Lincoln County Public Libraries and Sarah Barrick of Libby Public Schools will work with Humanities Montana staff and people from Eureka, Troy and other communities to schedule humanities programming throughout the county in the coming year.

Hometown Humanities includes 15 to 25 events, all free of charge and open to the public, selected from Humanities Montana's extensive program catalog. The schedule will include public speakers from its Speakers Bureau and Speakers in the Schools programs, community conversations on local issues, reading and discussion groups, and an array of other possibilities. The program is designed to get people talking – sometimes about challenging and sensitive subjects – in ways that broaden perspectives and bring people together.

In the meantime, Hometown Humanities is in full swing in Dillon. In May, a series of community conversations are on tap, and another of the popular downtown Dillon walking history tours. The previous participant was Miles City.

For more information, visit www.humanitiesmontana.org/programs/hometownhumanities.

MORE CONGRATS TO ...

The **Montana ShamRockers**, a Polson-based quintet that's headed to Ireland in June for a performance at the Thomas Meagher Center in Waterford. The group, which includes John Glueckert, Rick Skates, Rob Sloan, Mike Lozar and Neal Lewing (co-producer of the Port Polson Players), kicked off their One Decade Down Tour last May at the Northwest Folklife Festival in Seattle. Fold and Acoustic Music Exchange calls their albums "boggingly infectious and spirited."

The **Hellgate High School Jazz Band**, which was among 12 finalists selected to compete in the 2014 Swing Central competition, held in March in Savannah, GA. The band earned entry to the workshop with juried auditions of its past performances. Swing Central received more than 50 auditions for this year's workshop and competition, which is part of the annual Savannah Music Festival and attracts "some of the top players from New York City," Hellgate Jazz Band Director Leon Slater told the *Missoulian*. "The educational aspect of this should just be huge for our kids." The **Hellgate Choirs** were also on the road, performing April 26 at Carnegie Hall in New York City, where choir members worked with master singers Grant Gershon, Z. Randall Stroope and Joshua Habberman. The choir program, under the direction of Lee Kirkegaard, was named a Grammy Signature School semi-finalist last fall.

The Montana Historical Society's **Montana The Magazine of Western History**, which has been inducted into the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame. "Our mission is to honor the cowboy way of life, Indian culture, and our collective shared western heritage," said Hall of Fame Executive Director Christy Stensland. "The MHS magazine was selected because of its significant contribution over the years in passing on and preserving those stories with the power of the written word. It is well deserved." MHS Director Bruce Whittenberg said it was an honor to be recognized by the organization for the important work the magazine does to tell the stories of Montana and educate people across the state and the world. *Montana The Magazine of Western History* is an award-winning quarterly that has subscribers in all 50 states and in many foreign countries.

The six recipients of Missoula Cultural Council Arts Awards, presented March 25 during the organization's annual awards luncheon. This year's recipients are: Individual Artist – internationally acclaimed ceramic artist, musician and University of Montana art professor **Beth Lo**; Cultural Achievement – **Cathy Capps**, a tireless volunteer and board member for several arts and cultural organizations; Cultural Vision – **Joel Baird**, general manager of Missoula Community Access Television; Business Support for the Arts – **Missoula Federal Credit Union**; and Arts Educator – **Lisa Deer**, director of On Center Performing Arts, and **Tarn Ream**, a UM dance instructor and founder of Unity Dance and Drum. In announcing the award winners, Missoula Cultural Council Executive Director Tom Bensen said, "These annual awards indicate the strong community support and creative energy that makes Missoula a very special place to live and work."

Gloria Wester and **High Plains Architects**, recipients of the Historic Preservation Awards, presented by the Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board (YHPB) at its annual Preservation Roundtable, March 18 at the Union Depot in Billings. Wester received the Eugene Carroll Historic Preservation Award for taking a leadership role with the Pompeys Pillar Historical Association; and High Plains Architects was given the Best Practices Achievement Award for renovations to the Tracy Lofts Building at 2600 Montana Ave.

The **Yellowstone Art Museum** in Billings, which received a \$25,000 grant from the BNSF Foundation on behalf of its 50th anniversary. The grant supports ambitious new exhibitions, expanded art education, and additional special events throughout 2014. In turn, the museum named the foundation its Heritage Sponsor for the coming year. "The Foundation is proud to support the YAM and the invaluable work they do to promote regional art and foster art education," said Matt Jones, public affairs director for BNSF.

The **MAPS Media Institute** in Hamilton, which received \$7,500 from State Farm Insurance to fund the continuation of its "Give Back" program. MAPS' "Give Back" tradition began in 2010 when it donated time, services, equipment and student talent to the Valley Veterans Center in Hamilton. The goals and objectives of pro-bono student work are engaging students in community projects to broaden their awareness and sensitivity to others in need. This is the second award MAPS has received from State Farm. In 2012, the insurance company became a MAPS fee-based client and commissioned four public service announcements for television broadcast. In 2013, three of the PSAs were honored with "Awards of Excellence" by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, NW. This honor is the equivalent of a student Emmy award. The 2014 "Give Back" project is a collaboration with the Ravalli County DUI Task Force.

– From the *Ravalli Republic*, Feb. 22



Members of *Montana The Magazine of Western History* staff include photo editor **Glenda Clay Bradshaw**, editor **Molly Holz**, and circulation and advertising manager **Tammy Ryan**. (Photo by Jackie Jensen Photography)

TRANSITIONS



Kevin Asselin

Welcome to **Kevin Asselin**, who took the helm as executive artistic director of Montana Shakespeare in the Parks Jan. 13 after a national search. He is a former cast member of the theatre company and a professor of acting and movement at Oklahoma City University. Asselin holds an MFA degree in acting from the University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign and a bachelor of science in music and theatre from Plymouth State University. A member of Actors Equity, his Chicago acting credits include more than eight productions with the Tony Award-winning Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, the Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, Writers Theatre, Defiant Theatre, Rising Moon Theatre, Shakespeare on the Green, Dolphin Back Theatre, The Chicago Symphony and others. "Montana Shakespeare in the Parks is one of the most notable cultural outreach programs in Montana," said Nancy Cornwell, dean of the Montana State University College of Arts and Architecture in making the announcement. "With Kevin joining us as executive artistic director,

we will not only insure the future of our mission to bring Shakespeare to the communities of Montana and the Northern Rockies continues, but now MSIP will be poised to grow in exciting new ways – reaching new audiences with educational programs and expanding our impact locally." While with Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, Asselin appeared in "Henry IV, Part One," "The Comedy of Errors," "As You Like It," and "She Stoops to Conquer." He also toured with Montana Shakespeare in the Schools and was the co-creator of Montana Shakes!, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks' elementary school touring program. He directed "The Two Gentlemen of Verona," this season's Shakespeare in the Schools production. Asselin is a two-time Joseph Jefferson-nominated fight director and has staged fights for more than 40 theatres. He replaces Joel Jahnke, who retired as artistic director of Montana Shakespeare in the Parks last summer after 36 years with the company. MSIP's season begins in late June with productions of "As You Like It," directed by Asselin, and "Romeo and Juliet."



Lorna Nelson

So long and best wishes to the Bozeman Symphony's principal oboist, **Lorna Nelson**, who retired at the conclusion of the concert season in April after 49 years with the symphony. Nelson joined the orchestra in 1965, commuting from Big Timber. A native of Sidney who graduated with high honors from The University of Montana, she began her career teaching in the Great Falls Public Schools. After moving to Bozeman, she gave lessons in her private studio, and taught oboe, organ, piano and woodwind techniques at Montana State University until retiring in May 2006. As a musician, she played with the Helena Symphony, and every other Montana orchestra at some time in her career, as well as performing with Spokane's Royal Fireworks Band for many years, and the Gladsaxe Orchestra in Copenhagen, Denmark, for a season. In Bozeman, she has performed with the Intermountain Opera, the Montana Ballet, and the Gallatin Chamber Orchestra (during its five-year existence). She was a founding member of the Bozeman-based Gallatin Woodwind Quintet (GWQ), and has toured with the ensemble to the Kumamoto area of Japan and Singapore, as well as many venues in the Northwest. Her chamber-music endeavors include concerts through the Bozeman Symphony's "Far Afield" program with both the GWQ and OBoze (a double-reed trio); and the First Sunday Concert Series at St. James with the Nelson-Jacobson Duo (oboe, organ). She is also known as a fine accompanist on piano and organ for both singers and instrumental soloists. "Lorna has been a valued member of our musical community in Bozeman for many years," wrote Alan Leech, principal bassoonist with the Bozeman Symphony. "Her long dedication to the artful presentation of music is much appreciated by those of us who have performed by her side, and have listened to her 'singing' oboe over the years."

Welcome to **Brad Robinson**, the new operations director at the Archie Bray Foundation in Helena. Robinson brings both for-profit and nonprofit experience to this new position at the Bray. During the past nine years, he has served as member services director for the Montana Nonprofit Association (MNA), and is credited with creating one of the strongest membership programs in the state nonprofit association network, stewarding numerous cost-saving programs and founding the MNA health insurance program. He also worked as the executive director of the Montana Natural History Center in Missoula, and was a founder and manager of Big Sky Brewing Company, Montana's largest brewery. Other changes at the ceramic arts center include a shift for **Marcia Eidel** from director of development to director of planned giving; **Teresa Amsbaugh**, who has served as development officer, will lead efforts to garner grant support from foundations; and **Mitch Carroll**, the Bray's membership coordinator, will expand his outreach and, along with director Steve Lee, be one of the primary contacts for the Friends of the Bray, members and business partners.

Big Productions lives on, thanks to dedicated volunteers

Big Productions, the largest rural concert series in Montana, presents seven concerts a year in Ronan and Polson. It started with an idea proposed by one of the board members 26 years ago. The series has raised at least \$5,000 a year, and sometimes as much as \$12,000, for the (then called) Lake County Youth Home in Ronan.

In May of 2013, Big Productions was poised to present its 26th season the following fall under the capable hand of Chas Cantlon, on behalf of the youth home. Contracts had been signed, and the series would kick off, as always, in October.

Then, on May 29, the captain of the ship suffered a fatal heart attack. Many wondered if the series would happen at all.

However, although Chas had negotiated the contracts and booked the dates, it was his wife, Margie Cantlon, who made the tickets, brochures, posters, and programs, so a good part of the work could still be done by experienced hands.

Margie approached the board of the youth home – now known as the Cantlon Family Youth Home – and offered to present one last season, in hopes that a committee would come forward to carry on.

Word spread throughout the Mission Valley in the summer of 2013, and volunteers jumped in to preserve the concert series. Spearheaded by Trish Rodrique of Polson and Cantlon Family Youth Home Executive Director Brittany Cathey, the committee has taken



Big Productions planning committee members pose with Trio Voronezh after the group's March concert in Ronan. Pictured here (left to right): Brit-tany Cathey, Sergei Teleshev, Vladimir Volokhin, Trish and Mike Rodrique and Valerie Petrukhin.

on all aspects of presenting.

The transition began with Cantlon doing everything and explaining as she went along. By the October concert, volunteers had begun to take care of some aspects of the job.

At this writing, the WESTAF grant proposals have been submitted, with Cathey handling the negotiating, scheduling, and grant writing. Trish and Mike Rodrique attended the Montana Performing Arts Consortium conference in January, and Cathey will attend next year as well.

The March concert featured Trio Voronezh. Cantlon went to the first school program, but Cathey introduced the trio and handled all the outreach activities after that. For the first time, Cantlon attended the concert

as an audience member.

"Every aspect of the concert was handled by the new committee, which, by the way, has come up with promising ideas to grow the audience," she says.

The committee has stepped up so capably that Cantlon stepped away (retired, so to speak) before the end of the season. "They can handle the last concert by themselves," she says. "They've gone from looking like deer staring at headlights to looking and acting like the capable managers that they are – I am so proud of them!"

Cathey echoes Cantlon's enthusiasm. "Big Productions has had a wonderful season so far," she says. "It was evident from the beginning that the committee and the community were determined to keep the concert series going – not only because of the high quality entertainment it brings to our valley but, more importantly, as a tribute to Chas."

"It has definitely been a team effort by our entire committee to take on the roles that Chas and Margie did to run Big Productions," she adds. "We are learning quickly and are honored to continue the long-standing tradition of providing our community with a family-friendly and affordable performing arts series."



5



Meet up with MAC on Facebook

"Like" us for updates on Montana Arts Council activities and opportunities, as well as information for and about artists, arts events and organizations across the state: www.facebook.com/pages/Montana-Arts-Council/347466251951287.

CONDOLENCES TO ...

The family and friends of longtime arts supporter and former director of the Montana Arts Council's Artists in the Schools Program **Patricia "Pat" Kimble Simmons**. She died Feb. 8 in Missoula. Simmons was born in Chicago on Oct. 3, 1929, and grew up in South Chicago. A child of the Depression, the New Deal and World War II, she learned early that we are all vulnerable, and that we can take care of each other through our families, our communities and our government.

She attended Knox College in Galesburg, IL, from 1947-'51. Majoring in English and French, she began her career as a writer and supporter of writers as editor of the weekly newspaper, *The Student*. She met Don Simmons when they were cast together in "The Desert Song" at Knox, beginning a lifetime of shared music. She was an accomplished singer who sang in church, community and university choirs.

The couple married in 1951, and had three children: Elizabeth in 1953, Kim "JK" in 1955 and David in 1959. Over the years, Pat worked for the Army at Fort Slocum in New York, where Don was stationed, taught French in Grosse Pointe, MI, where Don taught public school music, and became arts publicity officer for Ohio State University when Don joined that music faculty.

The family moved to Missoula in 1973 when Don was hired to chair The University of Montana Department of Music in 1973. Pat loved Missoula, and Missoula loved her back. She directed the Montana Arts Council's Artists in the Schools Program, and designed events for the first Governor's Awards in both the arts and the humanities. As executive director of the Missoula Downtown Association, she promoted local small businesses, and created the "Out to Lunch" program, for which she was honored with the Missoula Cultural Council's Cultural Achievement Award. She served on the boards of Very Special Arts and Hellgate Writers, was a member of the Missoula Police Commission, and worked on the UM Foundation Business Drive, Leadership Missoula, and the United Way Citizens Review Committee. She received a Montana Alumni Award for her active roles in UM's Excellence Fund Drive, the Music Scholarship Benefit, Carousel for Missoula and the Missoula Symphony.

Alongside Don, she served on the Chamber of Commerce Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Friends of Flagship board, the Mo-Trans/Headwaters Dance Company board, and the organizing committee for the University Community Ice Cream Social, and was honored by the New Leaders Council and recognized as a "Rock-star" by Forward Montana.

Pat and Don were known as "Mom and Doc" by UM music students, and as "Missoula's grandparents" by the young progressives they admired who worked in politics and nonprofits. She advocated for children and the vulnerable, and was a beloved friend and men-



Patricia Simmons

tor, a storyteller and sounding board, and an inspiration, convincing young friends that it is possible to "continue to fight the good fight for a lifetime."

A Community Celebration of the Life of Pat Simmons was held April 19 in the UM Music Recital Hall.

– From the *Missoulian*, Feb. 16

The family and friends of journalist Betsy Cohen. She died March 3 of metastatic breast cancer; she was just 49. Her obituary in the *Missoulian*, where she worked since 1998 as a reporter, described her as a "hard-driving journalist, gifted equestrian and friend-maker extraordinaire, (who) embodied the candle that burns twice as brightly but burns half as long." Born Oct. 25, 1964, at San Diego Naval Hospital, she grew up in Amherst, NY, and headed west after graduating in 1986 from Hobart and William Smith Colleges, in Geneva, NY.

After a summer job in Glacier Park, she moved to Missoula, and earned a master's degree in journalism at The University of Montana in 1996. She immediately took a reporting job at the *Montana Standard*, where she covered government and the environment and developed a deep fondness for the community's character and characters. During her years in Butte, she partnered with *Missoulian* photographer Michael Gallacher, with whom she shared the rest of her life.

In 1998, she landed a reporting job at the *Missoulian*, and in short order, established herself as a valued and award-winning reporter, a veritable utility infielder, for the Missoula newspaper. She covered at various times business and the economy; higher education, including The University of Montana; public schools; and the police beat. She also worked on general assignment and, as an associate editor, fine-tuned copy and helped mentor interns and younger reporters.

In 2002, she won a reporting fellowship with the International Center for Journalists that allowed her to travel to Northern Ireland to track down Catholics and Protestants who, through the Project Children program, had spent childhood summers in Montana. She won the Montana Newspaper Association award in 2009 for best business reporter as well as the Best of the West award for breaking news; took home the Society of Professional Journalists, Pacific Northwest, award for best lifestyle feature in 2008; and received the Suburban Newspapers of America award in 2003 for best feature and the National Marrow Donor Program award for outstanding media coverage. She was a contributing editor to *Modern Arabian Horse* magazine from 2006-'08; an Education Writers Association fellow in New York City in 2007; and an International Center for Journalists fellow in Washington, DC, in 2002.

Cohen also completed the Missoula marathon and competed avidly in equestrian events with her beloved horse, Impressive Jewel. Her obituary concluded: "Betsy rocked Montana with her arrival and has done so again with her passing. No one, but no one, can fill her size-5 shoes."

– From the *Missoulian*, March 4



Betsy Cohen



6

Two Montana students win Scholastic Art and Writing Awards

Montana students Jacey Giles and Rebecca Vance won National Medals from the 2014 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, the nation's largest, longest-running scholarship and recognition program for creative teens. Scholastic, Inc. sponsors the program in partnership with national organizations like the National Writing Project and the National Art Education Association.

From an initial pool of 255,000 submissions, 2,050 works of art and writing earned National Medals. Giles, a student at Fort Benton High School, won for her painting; and Vance, who attends Kalispell Middle School, was recognized for her short story. These students and their educators will be honored at the National Awards Ceremony, June 6 at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

ARTS EDUCATION

Belt: Known for beer, basketball – and The Bard

By Emily Kohring
Director of Arts Education

There are two things a person might know about Belt, Montana, population 597. First, it's home to the State Class C Girls Basketball Champions for three years running. Second, Belt is home to the Harvest Moon Brewing Company, makers of two microbrews served in many Montana establishments – Beltian White and a porter named after the rear end of a pig.

Montanans think of basketball and cowboys and good beer when they think of Belt. One thing they probably don't think about is William Shakespeare.

Belt Valley High School English teacher Jeff Ross would like to change that. With a great love and passion for Shakespeare, but very little formal training in theatre, Ross is slowly transforming the ballroom of an old theatre in downtown Belt into a replica of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, and building an impressive youth Shakespeare program on the western edge of the Montana plains.

On a late March afternoon that should have been much warmer, I visited Ross and his students to watch rehearsal for their upcoming production of "As You Like It."

The old Belt Theatre is dilapidated and cold, and as I climbed the creaky stairs past a leaking pipe I wondered how a play could happen here. Ross met me at the top of the stairs and walked us into the transformed ballroom. It is the only room in the building with heat, and it smelled of fresh paint.

A large, four-inch-thick platform covers most of the floor, with seating for 120 people on raised platforms that Ross built three-quarters of the way around the stage. A large flowered rug was laid out at the front of the stage. "That's where the groundlings will sit," said Ross, referring to the pit in Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London where the non-royalty stood to watch the play.

More likely, it's where Belt kids will sit who want to get a closer view while their parents sit in the more comfortable folding chairs.

The cast entered the ballroom quietly and sat on stage, completely focused and ready to warm up. There are 14 high school students and a seventh grader who have been rehearsing with Ross after school four days a week

since late October. It's been an especially snowy winter on the Hi-Line, which has created a lot of challenges for some students in getting to rehearsal, in addition to conflicts with a multitude of other school activities.

However, as the cast warmed up with Ross, and then listened to his notes from the last rehearsal, they appeared confident and completely ready for the challenge of opening a play in just a few short days.

"A lot of us are walking around on stage as

language, but to express Shakespeare's intent in action as well as words – something that can be a particular challenge for actors who are new to playing Shakespeare. Offstage, they were attentive and focused, watching and learning from what was happening onstage and the coaching Ross was giving them. It was a fun and joyful learning atmosphere.

"As You Like It" is the teacher's second Shakespeare play during his six years in Belt, and his first since traveling to London last summer for the Globe Theatre's Teaching Shakespeare through Performance Program. He joined 21 other teachers from the United States in a month-long professional development program to learn methods of teaching Shakespeare to young people.

The experience was transformational for him, and he now hopes to start a Montana chapter of a Wisconsin-based non-profit program called Young Shakespeare Players. He hopes the program will reach beyond Belt to other students on

the Hi-Line and even Great Falls, and offer after-school and summer Shakespeare classes in an inclusive environment where there are no auditions and everyone gets to participate.

Ross and other members of the Belt community also dream of a full renovation of the long-abandoned Belt Theatre, so that it can be fully utilized as a performance space. Though they've raised some funds to repair a leaking roof, and some interior construction has happened, they are a long way from completion.

Ross has contributed his own money and sweat equity to the construction of the ballroom theatre space, as well as lighting. Costumes for the play were beautifully constructed by his wife, UM biology lab manager Karen Schmidt, and mother-in-law, Evelyn Parrish. A labor of love, no doubt.

But after watching Ross work with his students, I also hope that the fire he ignites in his young cast, and their enthusiasm both for Shakespeare and for theatre will be contagious, and move others to provide this fledgling program the financial resources it needs to grow and thrive.

Who knows? Maybe Belt will someday be famous for basketball, beer – and the Bard.



Belt English teacher Jeff Ross coaches the cast during a rehearsal of "As You Like It."

if we are scripts, not people," Ross told them. "If we don't add something to the language of Shakespeare, nobody in the audience will get it. What do we need to add?"

"Lively action!" the cast shouted back at him.

"How do we get on stage?" he challenged them.

"With energy!"

And with that, cast members jumped up and began running through various scenes that Ross called out.

At one point, the actress playing Phoebe was having trouble getting to the right emotion for a particular moment. Ross tried modeling for her what he wanted, and she still didn't get there. He shouted to the rest of the cast sitting off to the sides, "Come on everyone, let's help her!"

Immediately, all the cast members jumped up on stage in a semi-circle around Phoebe and her acting partner, silently surrounding her with their energy and support, until she got the moment. It was remarkable to see how tightly knit the ensemble was and the level of professionalism they displayed.

Onstage, Ross had clearly worked with them in rehearsal not only to understand the

ARTS ED BRIEFS

Poetry Out Loud state champion crowned in Helena

The Poetry Out Loud State Finals were held March 8 at the Myrna Loy Center in Helena after being delayed a week due to the blizzard that hit Montana in early March.

Eighteen finalists competed from across the state for the opportunity to represent Montana in the National Finals in April in Washington, DC. Congratulations to our 2014 champion, Sowmya Sudhaker from Butte High School, and runners-up Darcie Caldwell and Savannah Smith, both from Helena High School. We wish Sowmya the best of luck at the National Finals.

Read more about her on the Big Sky Arts Ed blog. And learn more about Poetry Out Loud at www.poetryoutloud.org.

Applications open for Artists in Schools and Community FY15 Grants

The Montana Arts Council began taking applications for its FY15 Artists in Schools and Communities grant program on April 15. Grants will be available to Montana schools, arts organizations and other community organizations with not-for-profit status for arts learning projects that strengthen



Poetry Out Loud champion Sowmya Sudhaker is flanked by runners-up Savannah Smith (left) and Darcie Caldwell (right).

(Photo by Robyn Duff)

participants' knowledge and skills in the arts.

Artists in Schools and Communities Grant updated guidelines for projects occurring between July 1, 2014-June 30-2015 were posted on the MAC website by early April. The grant application process is online at art.mt.gov.

Grant requests may be made for amounts up to \$10,000 and require a 1:1 cash match. Please contact Director of Arts Education Emily Kohring at 406-444-6522 or ekohring@mt.gov with questions.

ARTS EDUCATION

Big Sky Arts Education

By Emily Kohring
Director of Arts Education
bigskyartsed.wordpress.com



Can our classrooms become beehives of creativity?

In early March I attended the Western States Arts Federation (WESTAF) Cultural Symposium on Creativity and Innovation in Public Education, co-hosted by the California Arts Council. The event was a convening to address the growing interest in creativity and innovation as a solution to some of the challenges of K-12 public education. It was impressive company with some of the field's most distinguished researchers and thought leaders.

Our keynote speaker at the opening dinner was renowned architect Frank Gehry, revered around the world as a "Big C" creative – somebody born with inherent creative genius.

That's the way most of us think about creativity, right? Creativity is something you are born with, and something you can recognize in children in a classroom setting, and label. This child is creative, just look at her drawings! This child, not so much – stick figures, nothing novel about that. Oh well, maybe he or she is good at sports.

During the symposium panel discussions, a few researchers turned the idea of creativity as an attribute that individual people possess on its head. First came Dr. James Haywood Rolling Jr., an associate professor at Syracuse University, who boldly asserted in his opening remarks, "There are no orphan imaginations."

Dr. Rolling has studied the natural phenomenon of swarm intelligence and applied it to creativity in the learning process. Swarm intelligence is the collective behavior of decentralized, self-organized systems – like bees in a hive. He posits that creativity is also a social behavior, where the collected experience and information shared by the participants generate ideas. Ideas don't come from the one or two most creative people in the room, but from the collective energy, experience and knowledge each individual brings to the group.

Edward Clapp, a doctoral candidate from Harvard's Project Zero, also advocates for the idea of creativity as a social behavior by stating that no act of creativity can take place in isolation. He argues that the education system is holding on to the idea of the individual as the creative one, labeling some students as creative while others are not.

Cultivating creativity in the classroom will require policymakers to see creativity as a skill to be developed, just like math or reading. Creativity is something you do, and you can get better at, not something you are or aren't.

The majority of schools believe that creativity is a fixed capacity, instead of a skill that can be taught. Clapp believes that creativity should be seen as an experience for students that should happen through learning in groups, and not as something that an individual student is or has.

Creativity as experience! The implications of Dr. Rolling's and Edward Clapp's idea of shifting creativity in learning from an individual attribute of children who are "Big C" creative to a group participatory process are huge, both for arts education policy and educational access in our schools. Imagine classrooms where all students are honored as makers, creators and innovators, because it is ideas that get labeled as creative and not children. That's by far the most exciting idea that came out of the symposium.

What would it take to make this happen? It is a paradigm shift in thinking for educators and policy makers. It requires that teachers, especially arts teachers, set aside their judgment about who is creative and who is not creative in the classroom setting, and design opportunities that shine a spotlight on all

the students, not just the ones who are most evidently talented.

We will also have to reinvent classrooms and the way teachers teach in order to release the creativity that too often remains locked up in our heads, to paraphrase Dr. Rolling. Our classrooms will have to become more project-based, with the teacher becoming less an expert and more a learner, exploring complex questions alongside the students.

It will also require a re-balance of power between teachers and students, because, as symposium participant Dr. Robert Bilder pointed out, "creativity exists on the edge of chaos" and we tend to dislike chaos in our classrooms. In the kind of creative learning environment Rolling and Clapp are advocating for, learning is loud and messy and students have much more voice than we are sometimes comfortable allowing them.

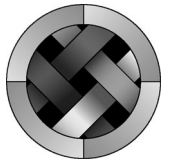
It will also require education policymakers to see creativity as a skill to be developed, just like math or reading. Creativity is something you do, and you can get better at, not something you are or aren't.

And, if it is indeed a skill, teachers will also need help developing this skill in themselves in order to feel comfortable teaching it through high-quality professional development.

At the end of the long symposium day, we got a sense of the kind of creative space Rolling and Clapp are advocating for when we toured Frank Gehry's studio, an experience that surprisingly reinforced the idea that creativity is less about the "Big C" and more about a social process. Gehry does not work in isolation, and he has designed his studio to make sure that the 120 or so people who work there feed off the collective energy and imagination of everybody else who works there.

The studio is one large warehouse with few walls or doors, organized by project rather than hierarchy. It is literally filled with models from floor to ceiling, because their process is to make a model of every single idea, in multiple scales, until the building is ready to be built. A beehive of making, creating, problem-solving and non-stop collaboration. It was after 5 p.m., and nobody was packing up to go home.

Imagine our classrooms like that when the bell rings – nobody getting up to go home, everybody too busy making. A beehive of creativity that all students experience together.



7

A Shared Endeavor

Recently, a coalition of twelve national organizations led by the State Education Agency Directors of Arts Education (SEADAE), called on policy makers and the public to re-examine support for quality arts education in a document called Arts Education for America's Students, A Shared Endeavor.

According to SEADAE's press release, A Shared Endeavor defines what quality arts education looks like at the local level, encourages partnerships, and calls on organizations and individuals to actively support and promote:

- Policies and resources for arts education;
- Access to arts education for all students;
- Collaboration between school-based arts educators, other subject area teachers, and community-based artists and arts educators; and
- Long-term advocacy partnership between all providers of arts education.

Download the pdf at seadae.org.

Teresa Heil named Montana Art Educator of Year

Teresa Heil of Wolf Point received the 2014 Montana Art Educator of the Year Award from the National Art Education Association. This prestigious award, determined through a peer review of nominations, honors an outstanding member from each state or province whose service and contribution to art education merits recognition and acclaim. The award was presented during at the NAEA National Convention, March 29-31 in San Diego.



Teresa Heil

"Teresa Heil exemplifies the highly qualified art educators active in education today: leaders, teachers, students, scholars, and advocates who give their best to their students and the profession," said NAEA President Dennis Inhusen.

Heil has spent 12 years developing a comprehensive K-12 art program at Frazer School, one of Montana's Schools of Promise, located on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation. She facilitates numerous culturally relevant school beautification projects

each year and hosts quality enrichment programs. She is also an adjunct instructor at Fort Peck Community College.

Heil holds a master's in fine arts and education from The University of Montana and received her BFA in art education from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

She is currently creating a model Indian Education for All visual arts lesson for the Montana Office of Public Instruction. View Frazer School's online gallery at www.artsonia.com/schools/Frazer2.

NAEA is the professional association for art educators. For more information about the association and its awards program visit www.arteducators.org.

Assessing the educational impact of a field trip

By Sean Fenton
WolfBrown.com

A recent study on the educational value of museum field trips may provide a model for assessing other types of arts exposure in school settings.

The study, published in EducationNext by researchers from the University of Arkansas, identified significant gains in knowledge retention, critical thinking, tolerance, historical empathy, and future interest in art museums among K-12 students who went on a field trip to the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, versus a control group that did not.

The study further showed different levels of impact among subgroups – namely, that this particular field trip had the most impact on students from low-income and rural areas, as well as the very young (i.e., students who were least likely to have had a similar cultural experience prior) ...

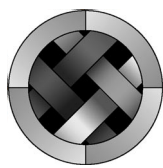
Conceivably, this framework for measuring educational impacts can be adapted to any arts-related intervention, such as group visits to theatre performances, visiting school assemblies, teaching artist residencies, and programs for learners of all ages.

Because we know the educational impact

of a work of art can differ widely based on who receives it, school-based educational programs can utilize this kind of research to fine-tune the design of their programs, as well as their messaging strategies.

Arts programs of all kinds might be wise to embrace this approach to impact assessment as a valuable way to reflect on goals, improve programming, and report success.

Sean Fenton is the manager of WolfBrown's Intrinsic Impact program and a Bay Area artist with roots in educational theatre and theatre for young audiences.



8

The Importance of Being Irish

The Gathering, an Irish oral history research project administered by the Irish Studies Program at The University of Montana and funded by the Irish government, recently launched a new initiative, “The Importance of Being Irish.”

“What we ask is that people pick up the pen and commit to paper their thoughts, feelings, experience and sense of the spirit and soul of Ireland and the Irish,” says Traolach O’Riordain, director of the Irish Studies program.

To participate, those with Irish connections or ancestry are invited to submit:

- A brief personal and family history and genealogy going back to Ireland; and
- An account of an event, tradition or experience that’s uniquely Irish and continues to evoke your history. It might include anecdotes, traditions, beliefs, superstitions, religious practices, songs, stories, or poems.

Multiple submissions are welcome from all age groups. Submissions should be less than 5,000 words and saved as a Word document.

Email submissions to submissions@mtirishgathering.org, or mail to Irish Studies, LA 125, The University of Montana, 32 Campus Dr., Missoula, MT 59812. Deadline is May 31.

A selection of the stories, songs and poems will be published in a book and electronic format.

For details, call 406-239-0990 or visit mtirishgathering.org.

ARTS & HUMANITIES

Film Clips: News from the Montana Film Office

Video pioneers: Montana filmmakers get viral

Pioneering into uncharted territory is a Montana tradition. Now, a group of Montana filmmakers are taking that adventurous spirit to a whole new platform: YouTube.

With support provided by the Big Sky Film Grant program, the producers of Montana’s newest channels, Nick Davis and Mick Faherty (“Epic Montana”), Doug Hawes-Davis and Dru Carr (“Montana Experience”), and Tonya Easby (“Reel-West Montana”), are looking for the best epic, authentic, cinematic, and most importantly – Montana – stories to showcase on the fastest growing digital platform today.

Each of the YouTube channels offers a different glimpse into Montana. From artist profiles to historical shorts and portraits of regular Montanans, “The Montana Experience” provides the ultimate access to Montana’s most intimate stories; “Epic Montana” brings the fresh powder and open ranges of Montana to life through extreme sports shorts and outdoor adventures; and “Reel-West Montana” serves as the access point for all things Montana film by providing behind-the-scenes footage and exclusive trailers from Montana-made productions.

Each channel has already seen marked success. Shorts from “The Montana Experience” have been accepted to film festivals across

the country. “Epic Montana” hosted the world-premiere of “Winter Light,” a poetic journey deep into Montana’s winter climes, by Max Lowe (son of the son of the late mountaineer Alex Lowe and adopted son of Conrad Anker). “Reel-West” hosted the world premiere of Bozeman-based Helio Collective’s viral music video, “Spirit Canoe.”

Content is continuously hosted and added to the channels, with the producers premiering one brand-new video each week. All content can be accessed through the individual YouTube channels or through any of the Montana Film Office social media sites.

Film Office assesses impacts of moving pictures

The Montana Film Office has commissioned an economic impact study to assess the impact of moving image production in Montana since 2006. When combined, the benefits of production expenditures and visitation influenced by moving pictures exceeds \$103 million; multiplied within the Montana



Montana production company Helio Collective saw its music video “Spirit Canoe” go viral after its online premiere this past March. Helio partnered with the Montana Film Office and Reel-West Montana to distribute behind-the-scenes footage and exclusive trailers for the premiere.

economy the economic impact on local communities reaches \$158 million and benefits an estimated 1,050 Montana jobs.

The 47 productions taking advantage of Montana’s film tax credits produced \$13.5 million in economic benefit on the state’s \$536,009 investment. Simply put, this means that every \$1 Montana spends in marketing, the film industry puts \$89 dollars back into local communities and Montanans’ pockets.

A full report will be available later this year. Any questions about the economic impact study may be directed to the film office through montanafilm@mt.gov or 406-841-2879

Great Falls library hosts “Civil War 150”

The Great Falls Public Library is one of only 50 libraries and National Park historic sites around the country selected to host “Civil War 150: Exploring the War and Its Meaning through the Words of Those Who Lived It.”

The national touring panel exhibition, which commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, will be on display May 26-June 16 at the library. As a host to this unique historical exhibit, the library will offer an array of special event and programs May 8-June 7, all of which are free and open to the public.

The library is also seeking descendants and relatives of Civil War veterans to share personal stories from the war.

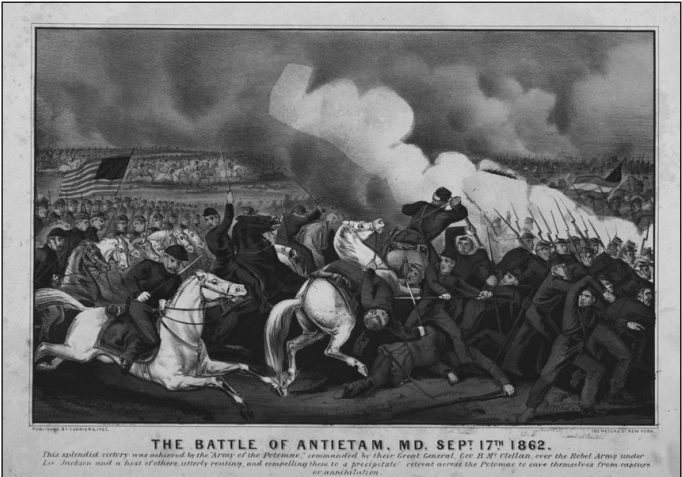
The exhibit is sponsored by Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in partnership with The Library of America, and is funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The Civil War was one of most transformative periods in U.S. history – and the bloodiest conflict in U.S. history. Experience

the battle through the eyes of major political figures, soldiers, families and freedmen. By virtue of letters, personal accounts, and images, learn how people grappled with the end of slavery, the nature of democracy and citizenship, the human toll of civil war, and the role of a president in wartime.

“Civil War 150” is divided into five panels: The Nation Divides, 1861: The Union is Dissolved, This Cruel War, 1863: Turning Points, and The Price of Victory (1864–1865).

Special presentations include a lecture series, 7 p.m. May 8-June 19; and an opening reception at 6 p.m. May 29 that includes a panel discussion, “Issues of the Civil War and Its Relevance to the Present.” The First United States Volunteer Infantry Reenactors present the “Return of the Galvanized Yankees



Battle of Antietam from the national “Civil War 150” exhibit.

Encampment,” 10 a.m.-4 p.m. May 31; and Jim Miller and Ticia Toby offer “Bonnets and Battlefields: An Interactive Experience,” 10 a.m.-4 p.m. June 7.

For more details, contact Jude Smith at 406-453-0349 or jusmith@greatfallslibrary.org.

MONTANA POET LAUREATE

Pitch and Swing

By Tami Haaland

Tonight we play the undefeated team, mostly little guys. Base hitters and one slamaroo kid. First inning one of our players hits a home run and catches two flies. The whole team is hot, then confused in the middle when a new pitcher tricks the batters with his changeup.

The last few plays are slow motion. We’re up by one but a good hit can alter everything. I can’t help but think what it feels like on the other team, to be twelve years old at bat, two out already, two strikes and the next pitch coming in. Poor kid, he’ll feel like it was his fault. And then he thwacks it, nice line drive to center field. He smiles, and our team has to start over, more risk because the kid on second could make it in. Next kid, two strikes, and I feel sorry again.



Tami Haaland

Coach says that’s the best thing about baseball. You lose and you win. The batter digs his foot into powder, ready to spring. The umpire and catcher become concentric, the infield players crouch toward the plate. It depends, now, on the pitch. It depends on the swing, and now the pitcher nods to the catcher, digs his toe in.

– From *When We Wake in the Night*

ABOUT MUSIC

– By Mariss McTucker

Ringling 5: Talent Worth Thousands of Dollars

Engineered and mixed by Don Seifert, assisted by Kaj Seifert and Larry Lovely at Potter's Music Barn, Clyde Park, MT, produced by the Ringling 5, 2013.

The "Norwegian Studs of Rhythm," as they dub themselves, are back at it with their fifth release. The rancher-musicians, who number more than five, hail from the Shields Valley area, save one who's from Bozeman. They got started when they played for a wedding party in the early '80s.

The popular group channels their inner Norski on originals, backed by a snappy country sensibility and a laundry list of instruments: guitar, mandolin, accordion, Dobro, banjo, bass, piano, and drums. Lots of colorful characters get their day in the story songs. The lone traditional offering is the last one, a medley of "In the Garden" and "Softly and Tenderly."

First comes "Uffda Girl," about a man trying to win his love back from the mother country and the arms of another man. Lots of oompah-pah sounds here, and unison singing – a rowdy glee club of sorts. It's a gas!

There's the double-entendre of "I Like Ewe," a guitar and banjo toe-tapper; and tickly piano underscores the weariness of ranch life during a cold Montana winter on "Ten on the Way," sung to the tune of a Loretta Lynn hit.

Shuffly electric guitar and a nice tick-tick on drums complement "Singin' Swingin' Cowboy." Here's our protagonist at age 50, losing his hair and going deaf. "... He simply has no fear ... Rogaine and Viagra always go so well with beer." What a hoot!

And the title tune, "Talent Worth Thousands of Dollars," is a talkin' blues, with tap-tappin' drums and a lightly picked guitar, for a "Smoke That Cigarette" flair. All evidence points to the fact that these guys have fun, and so do their fans. Visit them at www.ringling5.com.



Christopher Mario Bianco: In Montana

Recorded and produced by Chris Bianco at WilderSong Bitterroot Studio, Hamilton, MT, 2013.

Hamilton guitarist and songwriter Chris Bianco, on one of his earlier albums, described his music as "old-school/retro/Latin/slow jazz/new-folk." It aptly describes this freelance troubadour from Hamilton, a military veteran who travels far and wide to spread the word about his passion: protecting the Earth's wild places and creatures.

As a self-described "believer in pre-emptive peace," who promotes "ecological conservationism," he also endorses wildlife rescue and wilderness restoration projects, and spreads the word through his music.

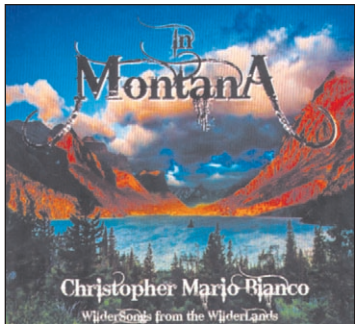
Bianco's devotion to all things wild leads him to write and sing about the peace and enjoyment nature lends the human soul. On this album he mines a folk/country vein, and his story-songs are a retelling of a day spent enjoying "wilderlands, set to music."

Bianco's style is simple and straightforward, and underpinned by considerable talent on the guitar. With an unusual vocal delivery, trembly and almost deliberate, he adds an emotional element with his agreeable baritone.

The sound of wind accompanies a fluid guitar solo in "On a Windy Winter Night"; a howl and a spoken-word intro infuse "Bareback Rider (The Wolf's Call)." There's a sweet, folky blues nuance and a whistle-while-you-walk feeling to "Grandfather of the Wilderlands." And "The River Bitterroot" opens with a cool guitar solo that teems with dexterous hammer-ons.

There's a lot more. Bianco, through his gentle music, encourages us to stop, listen and absorb with all our senses the wildness that we Montanans take for granted. He finds it appropriate to release this effort during the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. That's good timing.

Visit Bianco at www.wildersong.com.



Chad Ball: Corduroy Man

Recorded by Logan Dudding at Red Room Studios, Butte, and produced by Chad Ball and Logan Dudding, 2014.

Butte guitarist and songwriter Chad Ball has just released his second effort, a mixed bag of folk, blues, country and rock. That's a mouthful, granted, but he pulls it off admirably.

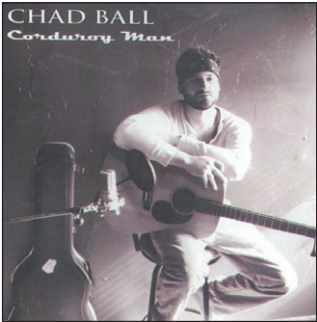
The music veteran's playing and singing style bears an uncanny resemblance to the late, great Jim Croce. He even sings a tribute to Croce titled, "Ray and the Waiter." It's a soft ballad about being offered work if he plays Croce covers, and boy, howdy, can he channel the man.

Ball's song poems, set in country backwaters, are chock-full of life's experiences, sung flawlessly in his gravelly, quivering baritone.

He's accompanied on the album by co-producer Logan Dudding on drums and percussion; his brother, Travis, bass; Michael Paul Masters, piano and keyboards; Sara Zora; violin; Kevin LaFond, steel guitar; and Danny Felix, saxophone. Ball plays a bit of harmonica, too.

"Cold Highway" opens the CD, highlighting his stellar finger-pickin' and world-weary vocal nuances. A country tune comes next, "Guitar Picker," with its bluesy, tight production, wherein Ball sings lead and Travis provides harmony. This one has a great guitar riff as well, Ball kickin' it on both rhythm and lead guitar. Cool!

There's a regretful aura to "Getting Out of Town"; it's got crisp, lean drums



and an understated mood. Ball wrote this one for a friend in his old band who died tragically, and it's contemplative and heartfelt.

Voluptuous guitar licks populate the title tune, "Corduroy Man." The instrument almost seems too loud compared to Ball's voice. I say almost, because it really adds texture to the piece.

"Fire in the Hole" sports a light and burbly piano and a subtle '60s rock beat; Ball's excellent ear for melody and the song's brisk and decisive percussion captivate. This one's about playing music onstage, living and loving it.

There's a waltzy, soft ballroom feel to Charley Packard's "Give Me an Old Gal," one of only two numbers on the CD that Ball didn't write. "... I don't wanna sweet thing, talkin' 'bout the future; gimme a gal who's got a past." He shows his superb vocal control, caressing and crooning each word before adding just the right touch of sandpaper to give the lyric its jaded due. He also adds some sultry guitar work, and a sweltering bit of sax joins the effort. Excellent!

The last snippet on the CD is two verses written by Ball's father, Pat, who died on the way home from a gig when Chad was young. It fell out of one of his mother's old gardening books while he was writing this album, so he decided to put it to music. It's a fitting way to end a well-produced album. There's lots more great stuff here. Spin this one and see what you think.

Visit the artist at www.chadballmusic.com.

Wylie and the Wild West: Relic

Engineered by Mark Thornton and mixed by Larry Marrs at Sidekick Sound Studios, Nashville, TN, produced by Wylie Gustafson, 2013.

Conrad cowboy Wylie Gustafson, arguably Montana's most famous musician these days, has just released his 20th (count 'em) album in a long and successful career. The songs are all new except "Hey Maria," "Hello Heartache," and "Without You," which he decided to re-cut because they go back 20 years.

The lone covers are k.d. lang's "Diet of Strange Places" and the Friml/Harbach/Hammerstein jewel, "Indian Love Call." I'd be hard-pressed to suggest anyone other than Wylie, save a resuscitated Eddy Arnold, who could reprise the latter number, a magnificent anthem that demands superb control.

There's some great yodeling here. Wylie gives us a sample of his well-known "yodel-ay-ee-tees" on his Chuck Berry-esque "21st Century Blues," and the sweet waltz, "Meadowlark," features gentle accordion as Wylie croons the songbird's melody. Way cool!

The stunning "Cutter's Waltz" is a showstopper. Wylie again sings in falsetto voice, including an echoing response and his own three-part harmonies. Wow! This one makes the purchase price worth it. I challenge "The Voice," or any of those other cookie-cutter talent shows, to produce a singer with a better falsetto.

Wylie sings lang's quiet Patsy Cline tribute, "Diet of Strange Places," with spot-on lang/Cline vocal inflections. "Hutterite Boogie" is a jumpy dance number with rockin' guitar and cool pedal steel. And Elvis is in the building for "The Book," with its all-out gospel flair, wherein Wylie channels the King in fine fashion.

The yodelin' cowpoke has once again gathered his usual stellar recording crew (with the addition of electric- and steel-guitarist Sam Platts, who plays with him live): Dennis Crouch, upright bass; John McTigue, drums/percussion; Jeff Taylor, accordion/piano; Larry Marrs, harmony vocals; and Mark Thornton, gut-string and electric guitars. Wylie plays electric and acoustic guitars, too.

Lots of shuffles, jitterbuggers, and hip-shakers abound on the recording, and the smashing accompaniment is nothing less than what one expects from a Wylie album. Visit the artist at www.wyliewebsite.com.



Ben Bullington

Recorded and mixed by George Bradfute at The Tone Chaparral, Madison, TN; additional recording at Electric Peak Recording in Gardiner, MT, and Will Kimbrough's Super Service, Nashville, TN; produced by Will Kimbrough, Ben Bullington, and George Bradfute, 2013.

Ben Bullington, Livingston guitarist/songwriter and doctor, put out a fifth and final album with just his name as the title in 2013. It's filled with melodic narratives he penned that reveal his unique view of life.

His very capable cronies on the CD include Will Kimbrough, guitars and mandola; Bill Payne, piano; Dave Jacques, bass; and Joanne Gardner, vocals. And country star Mary Chapin Carpenter lends her voice to "Here's to Hopin'."

When he was diagnosed with incurable pancreatic cancer in 2012, he quit his family practice and jumped into doing what he loved most: making music for the last year of his life until he passed away on Nov. 18, 2013.

Bullington's soft baritone, with just a hint of grittiness, couples with a flair for songwriting. His knack for seeing events and people clearly give the songs depth, making them seem timeless. And he garnered many fans as a result of his keen eye.

For example, "Country Music, I'm Talkin' to You" skewers the genre that he sees as having lost its soul. "I smell business in everything you do" ... "when did raw and edgy lose its cool, would ya send me your current list of rules," he sings, as he censures the business for deserting its roots.

"His Chosen Time" is spooky and minor; it's a true story with a ghostly feel about a mining accident in 2007 in Utah that took the lives of nine people. "Sometimes on safety it pays to pay the fines," he sings in the voice of the antagonist. "Wild Oats" is a plucky love song, and sweet piano and a loping feel infuse "The Last Adios," which Bullington co-wrote with Payne.

The folk-styled "I've Got to Leave You Now" is wistful and courageous, and Bullington's guitar work is understated and perfect. His musical descriptions evoke the visual, highlighting his songcraft. It's music played by a man who knows he doesn't have much time left, and it touches the heart. Bullington's hopeful view of the world never wavered. Visit www.benbullington.com.



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State of the Arts welcomes CDs

State of the Arts welcomes CD submissions by Montana musicians for inclusion in the About Music section. The recordings must be professional, commercially available, full-length CDs, with cover art and liner notes. Brief biographical information on band members would be helpful to the writer.

Please send submissions to either the Montana Arts Council, PO Box 202201, Helena, MT, 59620; or *Lively Times*, 33651 Eagle Pass Trl., Charlo, MT 59824.



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How to submit a book for *State of the Arts*

To submit a book by a Montana author for inclusion in *State of the Arts*' "About Books" section:

Please send a copy of the book to *Lively Times*, 33651 Eagle Pass Trl., Charlo, MT 59824; or submit the following information electronically to wroteus@livelytimes.com or mac@mt.gov:

- Title, author, publisher, publisher's address and month/year published;
- Price and whether it's hard- or softcover;
- A brief description of the book (no more than 200 words), and a short bio of the author;
- A cover image: minimum 200 dpi in pdf, jpg or tiff file;
- If other publications or authors have reviewed the book, send a brief sampling of those remarks.

If you would like us to return the book, include a note with it saying so. (We will pay for shipping.)

E-books: We'll also mention books that are only electronically published: send title, author, a cover image, website for downloads, and a brief paragraph about the book.

Books submitted to *State of the Arts* appear in this publication at the Montana Arts Council's discretion and as space permits, and will not necessarily be reprinted in *Lively Times*.

ABOUT BOOKS

American Plains Bison: Rewilding an Icon

By **James A. Bailey**
Published 2013 by Farcountry Press, Helena, MT
\$19.95 softcover

James Bailey's fascination with nature began as a child hunting with his father and participating in Boy Scouts. But it wasn't until his second retirement that Bailey began his in-depth study of the American Plains Bison.

"About 50 years ago, I heard Aldo Leopold's son, Starker, describe a policy for preserving examples of wild North America in some of our national parks," said the doctor of wildlife ecology. "That stimulated a long personal and professional interest in the Park Service strategy of naturalness."

Under federal law, the National Park Service must maintain natural ecosystems to preserve "wild" park resources unimpaired for future generations.

"When I retired to Montana," said Bailey, "I saw Yellowstone National Park, under pressure from the state, deviating greatly from its mandate in bison management." His study of the wildness of bison in the United States, culminated in his new book, *American Plains Bison: Rewilding an Icon*, which provides an original analysis of 44 conservation herds of bison and the effects of domestication on the wild bison genome.

According to Bailey, more than 200,000 bison are being domesticated in private, commercial herds in the United States. For over 100 years, such domestication is also underway among the 17,000 wild bison in mostly public herds.

His book explores the inadequacies of maintaining wild bison, and offers examples of places where contiguous public lands could be set aside for wild bison and other rare species. These grassland reserves, he believes, could help restore the shrinking wild bison population and maintain its important natural contributions to grassland ecosystems.

The author was a professor of biology at Colorado State University for 20 years, and taught big-game management and wildlife nutrition.



Adventure Tales of Montana's Last Frontier

By **Gary A. Wilson**
Published 2013 by Riverbend Publishing, Helena, MT
\$14.95 softcover

The characters and stories in Gary Wilson's latest book are centered in Montana's Milk River Country, nicknamed the "Hi-Line" by surveyors for the Great Northern Railroad, "because of the rails' ascent from Havre to the Marias Pass summit," on the Continental Divide.

The area is home to several Native American tribes, but was opened to white settlement in 1887, thus bringing an influx of cattle ranchers, railroad employees, outlaws, fur traders, and hardy pioneers hoping to make a good life for themselves and their families.

Itinerant clergymen, "cattle queens," fugitives from justice, "the world's youngest" female trick rodeo rider, and a famous Gros Ventre warrior are just a few of the characters we meet. The author includes a profile of the life of beloved clergyman "Brother Van," a Methodist minister credited with helping to establish 100 churches, several hospitals and Montana Wesleyan University, now Rocky Mountain College.

Wilson is particularly adept at describing notable battle scenes and gunfights, detailing the participants, their strategies and the outcomes of the querulous situations.

The search for Marias Pass by John Stevens, the extension of the Great Northern Railroad, the violent history of the town of Glasgow, and the development of the town of Havre are all part of this vivid portrait of the area's "panoramic past."

Wilson is the author of previous regional histories including *Tiger of the Wild Bunch: The Life and Death of Harvey "Kid Curry" Logan*, *Long George Francis: Gentleman Outlaw of Montana*, and *Honky-Tonk Town: Havre, Montana's Lawless Era*.

— Judy Shafter

Jacob and the Giant

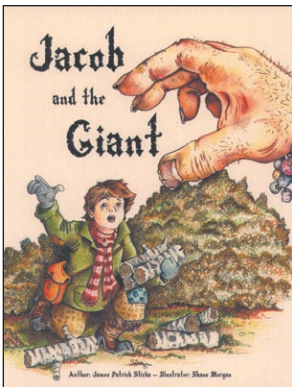
By **James Patrick Sticka**, with illustrations by **Shane Morgan**
Published in 2013 by Wordcrafter's Guild Press, Bigfork
\$19.95 hardcover; \$14.95 softcover

When Jacob takes his father's wagon and two stout horses to the Dark Forest to gather firewood for the family, his mother sends a basket of kiss-nip for the journey (recipe included!), and warns the boy – as any mother would – not to talk to strangers.

As he begins to gather firewood, he's snatched up by a hairy, grouchy giant, and carried to a cave far away. There, he befriends a sparrow and hatches a plan to outsmart his captor.

James Sticka, a cabinet and furniture maker who lives on the shores of Flathead Lake, says the tale is inspired by the stories his grandfather told, and that he shared with his own four sons. Kalispell artist Shane Morgan deftly brings this charming tale to life with illustrations of the garrulous giant and resourceful hero.

Visit stickastories.com.



A Hard Won Life: A Boy on His Own on the Montana Frontier

By **Norman Hyatt**
Published 2014 by Farcountry Press, Helena, MT

\$25 softcover; \$35 hardcover

Based on the hand-written memoir of Fred Van Blaricom, *A Hard Won Life* tells the true story of a life of hardship and hope in the Montana and Dakota territories during the late 1800s.

When he was just 7 years old, Freddie's mother died of typhoid fever and her nine children were scattered like chaff on the wind. Freddie and his younger sister, Alice, are sent to live with a cousin and her abusive husband in a shack five miles west of Forsyth.

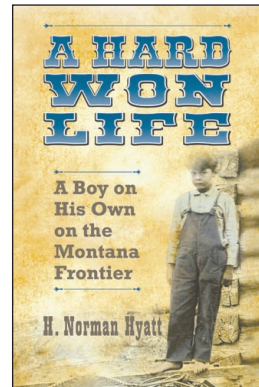
As the beatings escalate, Freddie realized he had to escape and go for help. In the middle of February 1883, he set out to cross the frozen Yellowstone River.

The river was frozen, but a recent chinook had left slush on top about ankle deep. "That didn't stop me," Freddie recounted.

He crossed the river and followed the railroad track towards Glendive, "125 miles to go, my grubstake two slices of bread, two pieces of beefsteak, no water, no houses for miles, and no one that gave a damn whether I made it or not ... and me 7 years old."

He made it to Glendive where he soon became the Huckleberry Finn of eastern Montana, breaking horses, helping catch a horse thief, meeting a young Teddy Roosevelt and, at age 10, riding alone 100 miles to work a ranch in the Dakota Territories.

Hyatt, who resides in Washington and is a descendent of early pioneers, tells the story in Freddie's voice, describing a life of struggle against many obstacles, all overcome or abided with no complaint. As Freddie puts it: "The hero was thrown, but the horse was tamed."



Hog's Exit: Jerry Daniels, the Hmong, and the CIA (Modern Southeast Asia Series)

By **Gayle L. Morrison**
Published 2013 by Texas Tech University Press, Lubbock, TX
\$39.95 softcover

Gayle Morrison became interested in the life and death of Jerry "Hog" Daniels while working with Hmong refugees in a resettlement camp in California in 1978. "Mr. Hog's" name came up repeatedly, and news of his death in 1982 was an emotional jolt to many of her Hmong acquaintances.

In 1997, she began a 10-year project to methodically uncover Daniel's story through hundreds of interviews, newspaper clippings and letters to his friends and family.

Daniels was an experienced smokejumper for the U.S. Forest Service when he was recruited in 1961 by the CIA to work as a cargo kicker in Laos, dropping arms and supplies to Laotian military forces as part of the CIA's secret war. This was the beginning of two decades spent in Southeast Asia.

Intermittently, Daniels returned to Missoula to complete his degree at The University of Montana. Between semesters, he went back to Laos, where he rose in the ranks with the CIA. His extraordinary dedication to the Hmong people became legendary. He lived and worked alongside them in the harshest of conditions, and helped facilitate the evacuation of 2,500 refugees to Thailand in 1975 when communist forces overtook South Vietnam and threatened Laos.

Daniels remained in Thailand, working for the State Department Refugee Program, and over the years assisted hundreds of Hmong refugees in relocating to cities in the U.S., including Missoula.

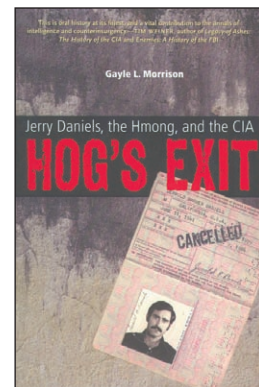
In the spring of 1981, on a visit to Missoula, Daniels told some of his friends that he was unhappy with what was going on with his job, and he wanted to quit and come home for good. On May 1, 1982, the American Embassy in Bangkok reported that Daniels had died of carbon monoxide poisoning while asleep in his apartment. A faulty gas heater was blamed. The U.S. State Department ordered his casket permanently sealed before being shipped home.

Daniel's funeral in Missoula was a three-day event, organized by his Hmong friends and conducted according to their tradition. But decades later, friends and family members continue to question the circumstances of his death, and "remain unconvinced that the U.S. government told them the truth."

While this engrossing book does not offer any answers, it does shed light on a complex slice of history and Daniels's heroism.

Morrison is the author of *Sky Is Falling: An Oral History of the CIA's Evacuation of the Hmong from Laos*. She has worked with the Hmong community since 1977 in education, refugee services, and as a historian and writer. She divides her time between Santa Ana, CA, and Missoula.

— Judy Shafter



Available Online Only

Behind These Mountains, Vols. I, II and III

By **Mona Leeson Vanek**
\$19.95 in Kindle format only at Amazon.com

When the *Statesman-Examiner*, of Colville, WA, published the first editions of this history of Sanders County and the northern Idaho Panhandle more than two decades ago, the Idaho Writer's League named Noxon author Mona Vanek 1992 Idaho Writer of the Year.

The Kindle editions, published in the past year, are titled *Vol. I: People of the Shining Mountains Where The Clark's Fork River Churns*, *Vol. II: God's Country In the United States Of America*, and *Vol. III: The Fabulous Valley In the Foothills Of The Rockies*.

In her review of the Kindle edition, Spokane freelance writer Sue Ellis says the author offers "a panoramic view of three distinct time periods in the history of western Sanders County," and praises the trilogy as "an example of what history ought to be: the poignant and entertaining memories of the people who lived it."

A resident of Noxon for 60 years who now lives in Spokane, Vanek has written for newspapers and magazines, and created a docu-drama based on her book, "Aunt Lena, Cabinet National Forest's Unsung Heroine."

ABOUT BOOKS

Dead Man's Fancy

By Keith McCafferty

Published 2014 by Viking, New York, NY
\$26.95 hardcover

Wolves, murder and the disappearance of a gorgeous red-haired guide, Nanika Martinelli, nicknamed the “Fly-fishing Venus,” fuel Keith McCafferty’s third Sean Stranahan novel.

The fishing guide, artist and occasional detective is interrupted from his pursuit of steelhead on the Salmon River by a phone call from Hyalite County Sheriff Martha Ettinger. She’s discovered a dead wrangler on Papoose Mountain, impaled on the antler tine of a trophy elk while trying to track down the missing Venus.

Ettinger has her hands full back in the Madison Valley after wolves are implicated in the young woman’s disappearance, and orders Stranahan to Libby, where he unearths a tragic history. Nanika’s mother drowned years ago when the family’s snowmobile fell through the ice on a Canadian lake, and her father, a government trapper who suffered from asbestos poisoning, had recently “French-kissed his revolver.”

In addition to her fly-fishing guiles, Nanika was involved in a radical animal rights group, the Clan of the Three-Clawed Wolf, and was the favored mistress of its charismatic, red-eyed leader.

Wolf lovers and wolf haters collide, as McCafferty plumbs some of Montana’s hot-button issues in this gripping read. And, like any good painting that emerges from a sketch, the characters in McCafferty’s novels are fleshed out as the series goes on. Sparks continue to flare between unflappable, attractive Sheriff Ettinger and Stranahan; and a soft heart beats within the hairy chest of the burly, hapless angler Sam Meslik (who has Mickey Mouse wielding a fly-rod tattooed on his massive bicep).

“McCafferty knows his country and his characters, who have a comfortable, lived-in feel and yet shine as individuals,” writes *Kirkus Reviews*. “... McCafferty’s understated prose deserves to be savored.”

In addition to two previous novels, the Bozeman author is survival and outdoor skills editor of *Field & Stream*, and has written for *Fly Fisherman*, *Mother Earth News* and the *Chicago Tribune*.

— Kristi Niemeyer



The Cow's Boy:

The Making of a Real Cowboy

By Charlotte Caldwell

Published 2013 by Barn Board Press, Clyde Park, MT
\$16.95 hardcover

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to grow up on a real ranch with cows and chickens and horses? *The Cow's Boy* invites young readers to pull on their boots and work gloves and join Luna, a Black Angus calf, for her story about the boy who feeds and takes care of her.

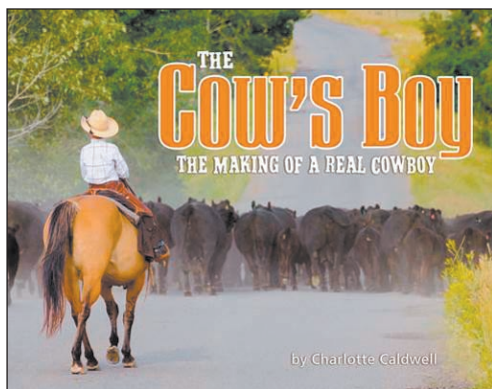
The Cow's Boy has lots of chores, but he also has plenty of fun, even riding with wranglers to drive cows to their summer pasture in the mountains. His adventures are captured in 67 action-filled, full-color photographs.

Writer and photographer Charlotte Caldwell had a different book in mind when she first visited Luna's ranch. But after a day shadowing Zane, a 9-year-old boy, on his rounds of the ranch, she knew he would be the book's main character.

“Zane was dressed in jeans, a silver belt buckle, and cowboy boots, and he wore big dimples with every smile as he showed me around the ranch,” Caldwell recalls.

She hopes her first children's book realistically portrays the culture of a small family ranch while offering a “joyful celebration of ranching life, and a way to honor the next generation of cowboys.”

She plans to release *The Cow's Girl* in 2014. The photographer, naturalist and preservationist also published *The Cottages and Architects of Yeamans Hall* and *Visions and Voices: Montana's One-Room Schoolhouses*.



Who Lost? The Autobiography of a Blind Man with Great Vision

By Dale Sheldon

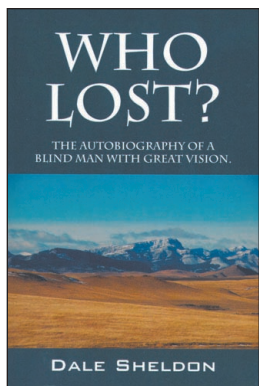
Published 2013 by Outskirts Press, Denver, CO
\$14.95 softcover

Conrad native Dale Sheldon tells a remarkable story of gumption and perseverance in his autobiography, *Who Lost?* A table leg, doubling as a baseball bat, claimed one eye at age 4. Vision in his other eye eventually disappeared too in what doctors called a “sympathetic infection.”

But a devoted family, a defiant spark and an inquisitive nature have helped him live a more adventuresome life than most sighted people. His little brother, Earl, “became eyes for me”; Mr. Callahan at the School for the Deaf and Blind in Great Falls “made me believe I could do anything anybody else was doing”; and supportive parents and extended family “permitted me to function pretty much like other kids.”

He rode horses and bikes, helped out on the family farm on the edge of the Sun River, ice skated, fished, swam, and learned how to shoot a gun.

His wife, Aggie, was a woman who “simply assumed and believed there was no reason why I couldn't or shouldn't do things.” Sheldon attended the automotive program at Rocky Mountain College, and eventually specialized in fixing transmissions, with help from Aggie, who read aloud parts books and manuals.



The young Montanan was among 15 blind people invited to serve as Russian translators in a secretive Cold War program. The Kennedy Administration hoped their lack of sight would help them “focus on the material needed and not what they were seeing.”

He spent several years in Washington, D.C., mastering not only Russian, but navigating the intricacies of city life. He eventually helped write a 50,000-word Braille Russian-English dictionary before the Special Language Project was disbanded.

The family returned to Conrad, and he resumed life as a mechanic, but continued to hunt, camp, fish, and ride motorcycles and snowmobiles and even water ski. He also became a sculptor, creating bronzes and wooden urns from oak, walnut and cherry.

His youngest daughter and a grandson have learning disabilities, and in his quest to help them, he has served on the Developmentally Disabled Council. He was also elected to the Pondera County Commission for 12 years.

Although his beloved Aggie died in 2004, he continues to navigate his life with characteristic hope and optimism. His take-away? “Being blind has some redeeming factors. All the females in my life can be beautiful and all the mountains can be climbed. My goal is to keep climbing.”

— Kristi Niemeyer

These Can't Be Choices

By Cori Di Biase

Published September 2013 by The Apparent Sublime, Cascade, MT
\$16.99 softcover; \$7.99 Kindle

In a starred review, *Kirkus* praises Cori Di Biase's first novel as a “beautifully written debut.”

The Montana author takes readers into the dark, turbulent brain of Ben, and his younger self, called simply the boy. Ben, a mechanic in Washington, DC, seeks solitude and the comfort of routine. He's mocked by his coworkers, who call him Compone, just as the boy was mocked by his fellow students for not fitting in.

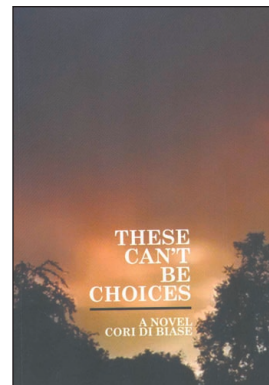
“The boy saw their hatred. Their disgust. It was pure, and it was clear, and it was honest. But there was something else. Something on their faces, or behind their eyes, or in the receding sinews and tethers of the one monster that had broken apart and now faded away. There was something else that drove them away. The boy couldn't understand that it was fear.”

In parallel narratives, Di Biase's spare, suspenseful prose reveals the terrifying trajectory of the troubled boy, whose life seems “endless and dangerous,” to the distant, uncommunicative man, whose shell is shattered by a chance relationship. “The more he thought about that night the harder it was to remember. The memory crumbled in his hands like old paper. It fell to pieces. Fragments that had no order and made no sense at all.”

“The writing mirrors Ben's agitated state, infecting readers with his anxiety,” writes *Kirkus*. “Put squarely inside a troubled mind, readers can't escape the fearsome knowledge that something bad is coming. Brilliant, frightening and skillfully written.”

IndieReader calls Di Biase's prose “sometimes lush and sometimes brutal, ... at times uncomfortably nihilistic, but it's also very well-written, and the quality of the prose makes it a good read, if not always an easy one.”

Di Biase is a graduate of Bard College at Simon's Rock and Purchase College. Born in New Jersey and raised in New York, he now lives in Montana with his wife and stepdaughter.



Landscape and Legacy: The Splendor of Nature, History, and Montana's Rocky Mountain Front

Written & Compiled by Dr. John A. Vollertsen

Published 2013 by Farcountry Press, Helena, MT
\$19.95 softcover

John Vollertsen, who completed his master's and doctoral research on Montana's Rocky Mountain Front, shares his considerable knowledge of that compelling landscape, along with observations by several other scientists, conservationists and researchers in *Landscape and Legacy*.

The book's 17 essays eloquently explore the area's complex geologic, biologic and social histories. The motivation to assemble this collection was simple: “Somewhere between loving it to death and exploiting it to unsustainable proportions, the Front requires advocacy to maintain its monolithic appeal,” he writes.

In his own essays, Vollertsen travels the Old North Trail, details the Assiniboine's centuries-old connection to the area, and recounts adventures from the two decades he spent observing grizzlies.

Other contributors include geologist Karen Porter, conservationists Bill Cunningham, Keith Aune, Jim Posewitz, Bob Kiesling and Gloria Flora, Métis descendant Larry Salois, and wildlife biologists Harold Picton, Mike Thompson and Jim Williams.

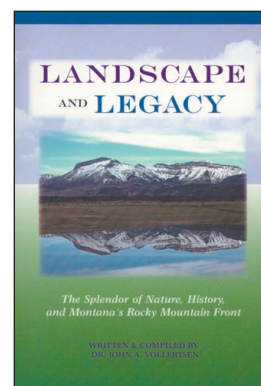
In an essay titled “Taking Refuge on the East Front,” Mary Strachan Scriver notes that the homeland of the Blackfeet and Métis has also provided sanctuary and inspiration to myriad writers, including A.B. Guthrie Jr., Ripley Schemm Hugo and her mother, Mildred Walker, and Joseph Kinsey Howard. “All have close and emotional connections to the land.”

Attorney and outdoorsman Stoney Burk closes the book with an appeal for support of the Rocky Mountain Front Heritage Act, a grassroots plan that would preserve this national treasure.

“It's the experiences and memories, the sum of our relationship with the lands we love, that makes us better human beings,” writes Flora, a former forest supervisor for the Lewis and Clark National Forest. “Our legacy of wild landscapes is worth far more than money can buy.”

Vollertsen, who lives in Helena, is a recipient of the Montana Wilderness Association's Sedlack Award for his work on the Front.

— Kristi Niemeyer



11

Award-winning Montana writers speak at conference

Montana authors Keith McCafferty and Danielle Girard will be the featured speakers at the fifth annual Get Published Conference for Writers, May 17 in Bozeman.

McCafferty is the award-winning author of *The Royal Wulff Murders*, *The Gray Ghost Murders*, and *Dead Man's Fancy*, which received a *Publisher's Weekly* Starred Review. The Survival and Outdoor Skills Editor of *Field & Stream* has written articles for publications such as *Fly Fisherman Magazine*, *Mother Earth News*, *Gray's Sporting Journal* and the *Chicago Tribune*. He has won numerous awards, including the Robert Traver Award for angling literature.

Girard is the award-winning author of the Rookie Club series. Her books have won the Barry Award and the RT Reviewers Choice Award and two of her novels have been optioned for movies.

The conference is at the Best Western GranTree Inn in Bozeman. For more information visit GetPublishedConference.com.



12

Clinic teaches traditional Native games

The International Traditional Games Society (ITGS) will lead a three-day certification clinic at Glacier Park Lodge in East Glacier Park. With three levels of training, the clinic will accommodate individuals new to traditional games or returning students desiring to expand their knowledge.

Organizers believe the games can help Native American elders and youth restore cultural identity by promoting mental, physical, social, and spiritual health; they also teach survival skills and encourage unity in the clan, family, band and tribe.

During the clinic, Level I students will learn games of intuition and physical skill, study the historical significance of the games and learn how to craft pieces for more than 20 games. Level II students will craft additional game pieces, including an atlatl and snow snake, and learn more about the neuroscience of play. Level III participants will assist with teaching and be provided with a mentor for self-analysis of Native games knowledge.

The fee of \$250 covers one adult and one youth 8-18 years old. Supplies and tools will be provided. To register, email games@traditionalnativegames.org.

The circle and the drum

The circle is an important symbol to Native Americans. You will see at many large powwows that the dancers are in the center of a circle, the drums and the audience form a circle around them, and the concessions and encampment form another circle around the gathering. This is symbolic of the life cycle. The powwow brings the circle of people closer to their family, friends and Native American culture.

The drum is more than just a musical instrument to those who own and play it; it has its own life. Some drum groups have gone through ceremonies and have had their drums blessed and named. The drum has its own powerful spirit. Gifts are made to the drum and some drums have their own sacred medicine pipes. In some traditions, the drum symbolizes the heartbeat; in others, the powerful medicine of thunder.

— From *Your Guide to Understanding and Enjoying Powwows* at www.opi.mt.gov

Powwow season is here!

Interested in exploring your surroundings this summer? Visiting Indian reservations is a fantastic way to explore Native art, culture, history and heritage. Powwows on the horizon include:

- White River Cheyenne Indian Days, June 22 in Busby (406-592-3252)
- Badlands Celebration, June 27-29 in Brockton (406-768-7684)
- Arlee Fourth of July Celebration, July 2-6 in Arlee (406-275-2727)
- Northern Cheyenne Fourth of July Powwow, July 3-6 in Lame Deer (406-477-6284)
- Valley of the Chiefs Powwow and Rodeo, July 4-6 in Lodge Grass (406-638-3525)

Congratulations to ...

Darrell Norman (Blackfeet), who was honored with the 2014 Artist in Business Leadership Fellowship. The fellowships represent mid-career artists who have demonstrated a commitment to pursue their art as a career.

Norman, owner and founder of the Lodgepole Gallery and Tipi Village in Browning, has been selling his mixed-medium art for more than 35 years. He plans to renovate his existing studio space and improve the outdoor area surrounding his gallery by putting up

new signs and a fence, improving the tipi camp and re-graveling the driveway.

Norman (Ee-nees-too-wah-see/Buffalo Body) is a traditional artist, dancer, singer and enrolled member of the Blackfeet Tribe. He is also a member of the ancient Blackfeet Thunder Pipe Society and Crazy Dog Society. He serves on the board of the Blackfeet Development Reservation Fund and Friends of the Museum of the Plains Indian.

For more information on the Lodgepole Gallery & Tipi Village visit: www.blackfeet-culturecamp.com

Monte Yellow Bird (Arikara/Hidatsa), who was selected to be part of the SWAIA/Santa Fe Art Institute Residency Program during the summer of 2014. The residency



Men's Fancy Dance at Crow Fair (Photo by Dyani Bingham).

is a unique opportunity for artists to create work in Santa Fe before, after, and during Indian Market.

Residents create, share, interact and exchange ideas within the communal living and studio spaces of the world-renowned Santa Fe Art Institute (SFAI) with artists and writers from around the world.

Yellow Bird is a painter/ledger artist from Wilsall. He studied fine arts at both IAIA (Institute of American Indian Arts) and Minot State University. He has participated in artist-in-residence programs at the Eiteljorg Museum and the Paris Gibson Square Museum. His work is currently part of the Mud Pony Traveling Exhibit and is on display at the Holter Museum in Helena. Yellow Bird uses various First Nation icons and scenes of daily life in his paintings and ledger works to carry on the memory of his Native ancestors.

Learn more at blackpintoartfinearts.com.

Native News compiled by
Dyani Bingham
(dyani_b@hotmail.com)
for *State of the Arts*

First People's Fund seeks nominations for Community Spirit Awards

The Community Spirit Awards are national fellowships awarded to American Indian, Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian artists. The First Peoples Fund chooses honorees for their commitment to sustaining the cultural values of native people.

The process of bringing spirit back to community is an important responsibility for artists – it is part of a sacred honor system. The First Peoples Fund works to strengthen that honor system by recognizing these exceptional artists for knowing themselves, honoring others, and

sustaining spirit in their own communities.

Nominees must be:

- Practicing artists of demonstrated maturity in their field (in addition to visual arts, First Peoples recognizes contemporary and traditional forms of performing and literary arts);
- Continually practicing artists for a minimum of 10 years; and
- Documented affiliate of a United States tribe (Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian artists included).

Fellowships will be awarded to artists who demonstrate:

- An artistic practice that

passes on the traditions and the life ways of the people;

- A commitment to building the strength of native communities by sharing their skills and talents with others in their respective communities; and
- Deeply rooted and direct ties to their tribal community.

Deadline for nominations is July 1: Nominate online at www.firstpeoplesfund.org or send a postcard including complete names and addresses of both nominee and nominator to P.O. Box 2977, Rapid City, SD 57709. Nominated candidates must be from an American Indian community.

Applications will be mailed out after nomination deadline has passed.

Selection process and expectations: A national selection committee will review nominees and select awardees from those that meet the outlined qualifications. Fellowship recipients will receive \$5,000 designed to give them the opportunity to “practice their art.”

IN PRINT

Off the Path: An Anthology of 21st Century Montana American Indian Writers (Volume 1)

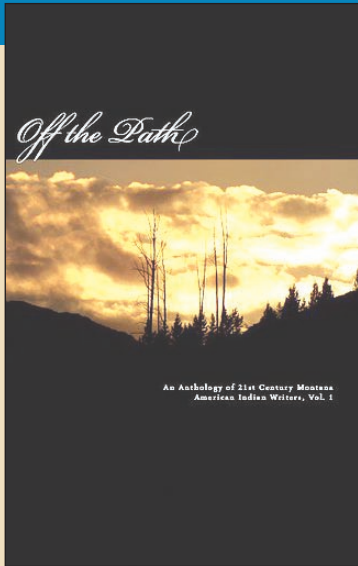
Edited by Adrian L. Jawort

Published February 2014 by Off the Pass Press LLC, Billings
\$12.95 softcover; \$5.99 Kindle

Off the Path is a new collection that showcases the talents of Montana's top contemporary American Indian writers.

Editor and contributor Adrian Jawort is a Northern Cheyenne and lifelong Montanan. A journalist for more than 12 years, he has written for various indie newspapers, several nationally distributed publications, and is a correspondent and columnist for Indian Country Today Media Network. He also has a dark fantasy novel under his belt, *Moonrise Falling*, and is the founder of Off the Pass Press, which aims to find unconventional beauty in literature off the beaten path.

The four other contributors are Cinnamon Spear, a Northern Cheyenne writer and documentary filmmaker; Luella N. Brien, Apsáalooké, who graduated from The University of Montana School of Journalism in 2006, and was the first student editor and contributor for UM's trailblazing reznetnews.org; Eric L. Big-Man Brien, a member of the Crow (Apsáalooké) Tribe who, when



not writing, moonlights as an Elvis impersonator; and Sterling HolyWhiteMountain, who grew up on the Blackfeet Reservation, and is a graduate of The University of Montana and the Iowa Writers' Workshop, and was a James C. McCreight Fiction Fellow at the University of Wisconsin. He's currently working on a collection of novellas and stories, while working toward a bachelor's in Native American Studies at UM.

BigMan Brien told the *Big Horn County News* that the

anthology shows that the stories of Native Americans didn't end in the Old West and boarding schools. “Our lives and our stories have continued to this day,” he said. “And I feel it's important that people know our story is ongoing.”

For more about Off the Path, visit www.offthepasspressllc.com.

Yellowstone Art Museum celebrates a milestone

By Robyn Peterson
Executive Director

Yellowstone Art Museum

The Yellowstone Art Museum (formerly the Yellowstone Art Center) is celebrating its first half century throughout 2014 – and is proud to be the first contemporary art museum in the region to reach the “50” milestone.

As brave and ambitious as its founders and early supporters were, they may never have imagined how far the Billings museum would come in just a couple of generations. The reasons for this growth and success are worth reflecting upon.

The growth in the facility and operation alone are impressive. The YAM has evolved from a low-ceilinged retrofitted county jail of about 10,000 square feet to a site with 50,000 square feet of space, including a beautiful, purpose-built expansion of that county jail and an annex building – the Visible Vault – for public viewing of collection storage, the only such facility in our area.

The operating budget has multiplied literally by a factor of 100. Staff size has increased from just one to the equivalent of 17 fulltime employees.

Still, these are just statistics. They are the indicators of success, not the reason for it.

There is certainly a history of the YAM that can be told through awards, certificates, grants and accolades. However, the more remarkable achievement of the Yellowstone Art Museum is its successful history of exposing audiences to the exceptional work of Montana’s artists and building an unparalleled collection of avant-garde regional and regionally relevant art. This effort is what has consistently grabbed the hearts of Montanans and the YAM’s out-of-state visitors.

The YAM has evolved to become more than a place where artists and art lovers can converge. Truthfully, that can and does hap-



The former county jail celebrates its 50th year as a regional art museum.

pen everywhere – in garages, studios and warehouses. The YAM’s distinction is that it arose to fill a genuine gap in the art scene at the time, to serve artists who worked in non-traditional modes unrelated to the popular Wild West-derived genres, and to present and interpret this sometimes-puzzling work for the general public.

That element of public service is crucial. The YAM has staked out an identity as a steady voice for the progressive, experimental risk-takers among the region’s artists, and as a place that brings influential new work from outside the region to an area that pays a certain price due to geographical remoteness.

In the past few decades, regional art, generically speaking, has begun to gain the critical legitimacy that it has long deserved. Small and mid-sized art museums around the country that have done well are usually those that have concerned themselves with understanding and defining local artistic achievement rather than trying to be encyclopedic museums of world art in miniature. In this way, they have developed strong and distinctive identities, quirks even, and have escaped being clones of each other.

The Yellowstone Art Museum took an early lead in this effort to attain national recognition on the basis of its regional character, which is not so paradoxical a path as it may seem.

Staff members no longer live in the building or smoke while installing shows, and artists no longer throw pots in the basement (although, the latter could return ...). While there is a certain degree of nostalgia for the days when the excitement of doing something for the first time infused every effort and when practical problems found their solutions on the

fly, it is still true today that the staff and supporters are as devoted as ever to presenting thoughtful and exceptional art.

It is still true that these same people will do whatever it takes to open the doors of our museum every day and invite the curious mind to partake of the uniquely human aesthetic journey.

“Face to Face”

The Yellowstone Art Museum is honoring the thousands of face-to-face, personal relationships that have been the lynchpin of its history with a major exhibition called “Face to Face, Wall to Wall,” curated by Senior Curator Bob Durden.

This major exhibition, on display through Aug. 24, places the work of several regional artists into a larger context, and at the same time reflects a meaningful trend in the larger world art scene.

The 50th anniversary celebration also includes special events and promotions all year, such as free admission to anyone born in 1964, an invitation to contribute a self photograph to the museum’s “Wall of Faces,” a YAM B-Day Bash for kids on June 14, a Vintage Vehicle Show on June 28, a gala on Nov. 7, and a commemorative publication.

For information, visit artmuseum.org.



13

Blackfoot Pathways: Sculpture park and symposium

As Montana’s logging and mining industries declined during the last two decades, the small mountain town of Lincoln found itself languishing in the economic doldrums. An unlikely project to bring internationally renowned artists to town for a sculpture symposium – and the establishment of a sculpture park – may move the town’s fortunes in a new direction.

The project, Blackfoot Pathways: Sculpture in the Wild International Sculpture Symposium, is slated for Sept. 15-Oct. 4. The project is the brainchild of Ireland’s top silversmith Kevin O’Dwyer, who is artistic director, and Lincoln resident Rick Dunkerley, an award-winning master blade smith who heads the effort as project director.

A focus on education will play a major role in the future of the project. Artists will be invited to work in the sculpture park during spring and autumn residencies. The training of local artists to deliver the on-site education program will also provide needed economic support and foster their creative expression.

At the end of the symposium, the Sculpture in the Wild park, planned for a 26-acre tract on the east edge of Lincoln, will be open to the public.

For details, visit www.sculptureinthewild.com.

AUCTION ACTION

Artists get red-carpet treatment by MAM

“Artists in the Spotlight” was the theme of the Missoula Art Museum’s 42nd Benefit Auction, held Feb. 1 in the University Center Ballroom. “We wanted to shine a light on the generous artist donors to the auction, and there was a healthy representation of auction artists in the crowd,” says Executive Director Laura Millin. A red-carpet photo booth, run by two artists, and a sparkling gold chandelier encouraged the dressy affair “to go over the top,” she adds.

This year’s auction yielded \$116,000 in net proceeds, compared to \$112,000 last year. The event drew 450 guests, who bid on 100 artworks, via live and silent auctions. A request to help fund educational programs brought in \$11,650.

According to Millin, the crowd reflected MAM’s initiatives “to engage the next generation of art lovers and coax them into becoming collectors.” The museum has engaged younger patrons by involving them in programming and as members of MAM’s Auction Committee, as well as featuring affordable art and mixing it into the auction with the higher end works.

The auction is the largest fundraiser of the year for MAM. Proceeds help fund its year-round educational programs and art exhibitions that are free to the public.

Among this year’s top sellers: Ryan Mitchell’s stoneware and porcelain sculpture, “Everywhere Buddha with Flowers,” went for \$5,000; and Asha Murthy MacDonald’s large landscape, “Fagan’s Rest,” brought in \$4,600.

The “experiential” category featured an array of non-art items, including a mountain retreat with James Turrell, lunch in Napa with winemaker Sean Minor, an Alberton Gorge float trip with Stephanie Frostad, and an all-access pass to the Big Sky Documentary Film.

“The event is so well-loved in Missoula and it just keeps getting better, fun, and more creative,” says Millin.

For details, visit missoulaartmuseum.org.

Snowstorm doesn’t dent YAM’s Auction 46

A snowstorm may have hampered attendance at the Yellowstone Art Museum’s Auction 46, held March 1 in Billings, but sales were up and the event supplied a festive and upbeat launch to YAM’s 50th anniversary celebration.

More than 460 artists, art collectors and volunteers attended – a drop of 10% from the previous year, “which we attribute to the very cold, snowy day,” says Executive Director Robyn Peterson.

But on a positive note, “sales were very good in spite of lower attendance,” she adds. The auction grossed more than \$328,000, netting “well over budget.” And with the post-sale continuing, the museum had sold 175 works of art for more than \$227,000 by the end of March.

Neil Jussila’s “Goshawk at Jordan,” from “Meditations on the Lyrical Nature of Being,” was the highest seller at \$6,750.

The auction is a major fundraiser and its success “ensures that the high quality exhibitions and programs we have planned for the rest of the year will take place as planned,” says Peterson.

Learn more at www.artmuseum.org.

C.M. Russell auction sets new records

The Russell: An Exhibition and Sale to Benefit the C.M. Russell Museum achieved record results via several auctions and sale events, March 20-23 in Great Falls. The annual event is the cornerstone of Western Art Week.

The museum raised a gross total of \$6.19 million, plus an additional \$120,000 from the “educational paddle raise.” The previous record was \$3.6 million raised in 2013.

The Russell live auction took place Saturday night, March 22, at a new venue, the



“Artists in the Spotlight” was the theme of the Missoula Art Museum’s glitzy fundraiser.

(Photo by Likatia Photography)

Mansfield Convention Center. It featured more than 150 lots of fine art, including more than a dozen original Charles M. Russell artworks. More than 90 percent of the lots in the live auction sold for a total of \$5,440,000.

The highlight of the night was Russell’s 1895 oil painting, “Offering a Truce [Bested],” which sold for \$1,250,000, and is the highest-priced piece ever sold at The Russell live auction.

“It is rare to have one or two significant, original Russell artworks in an auction, let alone a dozen, all with exceptional provenance,” notes Steve Whisler, chairman of the museum’s board of directors. “We wanted this year to surpass all others, and thanks to patrons, artists, our sponsors and the community, we vastly exceeded our goals.”

He attributes The Russell’s success with established and new events that took place throughout the weekend. The Thursday evening silent auction of fine art, objects and unique travel experiences raised \$432,000 in gross sales. The Russell Art in Action® was another successful sellout, grossing \$200,000 in art sales, with 100 percent of the proceeds donated to the museum.

New to the event lineup was the First Strike Friday Night Auction at the Mansfield Center. The event was a hit with 40 works by top-trending western artists grossing \$120,000.

For more on The Russell, visit www.cmrussell.org/the-russell.



14

MSIP opens season in Bozeman

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks launches its 41st season at the Grove at Montana State University in Bozeman with productions of two favorites, “As You Like It,” June 18-21 and “Romeo and Juliet,” June 25-28.

Kevin Asselin, the company’s new executive artistic director, set the production of “As You Like It” in 1917 Montana, where brave Rosalind leaves the world of Butte’s Copper Kings and finds refuge in the forested communities of northwest Montana. The setting was inspired by the documentary “Butte, America.”

Last produced by Shakespeare in the Parks in 2004, “Romeo and Juliet” is the classic story of beauty, youth, and love destroyed at the height of passion. The 2014 production will be set in a timeless romantic landscape and is directed by Will Dickerson, who returns to MSIP for his fourth season as director.

After opening the season in Bozeman, MSIP travels to 60 communities, offering 75 free performances throughout Montana, northern Wyoming, eastern Idaho, western North Dakota and eastern Washington with an emphasis on underserved, rural areas.

For more information, call 406-994-3303 or visit www.shakespeareintheparks.org.

ARTS CALENDAR, MAY/JUNE

Anaconda

May 15
John Davidson - 7:30 p.m., Washoe Theater, Anaconda Live, 406-563-2606
May 17
Andrew Gromiller and the Organically Grown - 8 p.m., Fairmont Hot Springs Resort, 406-797-3241

Augusta

June 8
Reading: Gwen Florio - 1-4 p.m., Latigo and Lace, 406-562-3665

Belgrade

May 16
Jason Boland and the Stragglers - 8 p.m., Silver Spur Arena, 406-581-5717
June 18
“A Visit with Teddy Roosevelt” - 6-7 p.m., Community Library, 406-243-6022

Big Timber

May 29
Andrew Gromiller and the Organically Grown - 7 p.m., Cottonwood Cinema, 406-932-4060
June 30
“Romeo and Juliet” - 6:30 p.m., Lions Club Park, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, 406-994-3901

Bigfork

May 3
“Cinderella – A New Adaptation” - 1 and 7 p.m., Bigfork Center for the Performing Arts, Stillwater Christian School, 406-837-4885
May 4
Taste of Bigfork - 2-5 p.m., downtown, 406-837-5888
May 10-11
“Cinderella” - Bigfork Center for the Performing Arts, 406-755-0760
May 16-17, 23-24, 30-31, June 11, 14, 17, 19, 23, 28
“You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown” - 8 p.m., Bigfork Summer Playhouse, 406-837-4886
May 17
Spring Art Walk - downtown, 406-837-5429
June 7, 12, 16, 20, 25, 30
“West Side Story” - 8 p.m., Bigfork Summer Playhouse, 406-837-4886
June 10, 13, 18, 21, 26
“Thoroughly Modern Millie” - 8 p.m., Bigfork Summer Playhouse, 406-837-4886
June 24, 27
“Tarzan – The Stage Musical” - 8 p.m., Bigfork Summer Playhouse, 406-837-4886

Billings

May 2
Art Walk - 5-9 p.m., downtown, 406-259-6563
May 2-4, 8-11, 15-17
“Chemical Imbalance” - Billings Studio Theatre, 406-248-1141
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Friday Night Comedy - 8 p.m., R Club, 406-867-8302
May 2 & June 6
Jam at the YAM - 5:30-8 p.m., Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804
May 3
The Cold Hard Cash Show and The Velvet Elvis - 8 p.m., Carlin Hotel and Events Center, 406-245-7515
Dance Showcase 2014! - 7 p.m., Lincoln Auditorium, Billings Brain Injury Support Group, 406- 656-2744

May 5
“The Greatest Love of All,” The Whitney Houston Show - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052

May 6
Arlo Guthrie - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052
May 6, 13, 20, 27
Spring Tours - Moss Mansion, 406-256-5100

May 7
Mel Tillis - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052
May 10
Comedy Tsunami: A Night of Sparkling Champagne and Serious Laughs - 7 p.m., Red Door Lounge, 406-259-6419

May 11-12
Rock Sirenz - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052

May 11
Shall We Dance - 4-7 p.m., Shrine Auditorium, 406-259-4384
Slayer - 7:30 p.m., Shrine Auditorium, 406-259-4384

May 12-17
Wine and Food Festival - MSU Billings, 406-657-2244

May 13
Theory of a Deadman - 7 p.m., Babcock Theatre, 406-259-7123

May 15
High Noon Speaker Series: Loren Entz - noon, Western Heritage Center, 406-256-6809
“Perspectives on Surrealism and Gender” - 6:30-7:30 p.m., Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804

May 16-18, 23-24, 29-31
“Little Shop of Horrors” - NOVA Center for the Performing Arts, 406-591-9535

May 17
Heritage Home Tour - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Moss Mansion, 406-256-5100
Tech N9ne - 7:30 p.m., Babcock Theatre, 406-259-7123

May 22
The Exquisite Corpse and Other Surrealist Parlor Games - 6:30 p.m., Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804

May 29
Grieves - 8 p.m., Carlin Hotel and Events Center, 866-300-8300

June 5
Kenny Rogers - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052

June 6-8, 12-15, 19-22, 26-28
“Shrek, The Musical” - Billings Studio Theatre, 406-248-1141

June 7
SpringFest - 9-5 p.m., Moss Mansion, 406-256-5100

June 14
YAM B-Day Bash - Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804

June 21
YAM Publication Sale - Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804

June 25
Kenny Wizz: Micahel Jackson’s “Thriller,” 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052

June 26
“Herb and Dorothy” - Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804

June 28
“The Dog Soldier Ledgerbook: A Source for Indian History” - 1-2 p.m., Pictograph Cave State Park, 406-243-6022
Vintage Vehicle Show - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804

June 29
Symphony in the Park - 4-9 p.m., Pioneer Park, 406-252-3610

Boulder

June 15
Brother Van’s Cowboy Poetry and Old-Time Music Festival - 3 p.m., Methodist Church, 406-202-4048

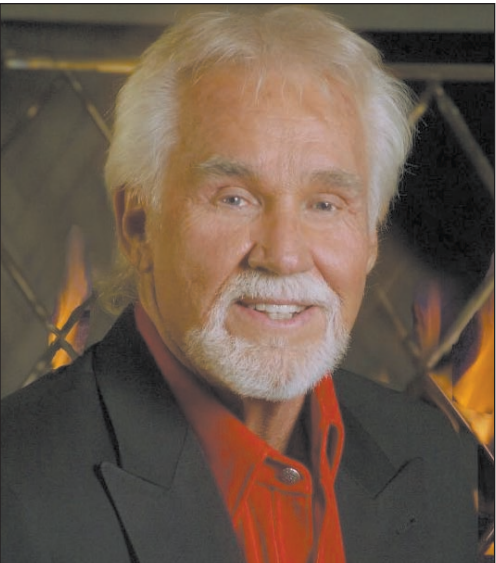
Bozeman

May 2-3
“Tales on the Verge” - 8 p.m., Verge Theater, 406-587-0737

May 3
Arlo Guthrie, “Here Come the Kids” - 8 p.m., Ellen Theatre, 406-585-5885



Yellowstone Ballet presents “Cinderella” May 3-4 in Bozeman. Other “Cinderella” productions are also playing at venues in Deer Lodge and Bigfork during May. (Photo by CJ Photography)



Kenny Rogers comes to Billings June 5.

May 3-4
“Cinderella” - 4 p.m., Willson Auditorium, 406-224-8801

May 3, 10, 17
Silly Moose Comedy Improv Show - 2 p.m., Verge Theater, 406-587-0737

May 6, June 3
Gallatin Art Crossing Art Lecture Series - 7 p.m., Bozeman Public Library, 406-582-2426

May 7
PercOrchestra - 7 p.m., Bozeman Public Library, 406-582-2426

May 9
“Winter in the Blood” - 7:30 p.m., Emerson Cultural Center, Bozeman Film Festival, 406-570-0542

May 10
“La Cenerentola” - 11 a.m., Gallatin Valley Mall Cinema, 406-326-3264

May 14
Chris Robinson Brotherhood - 8 p.m., Emerson Center, 406-586-1922

May 16, 18
“La Cenerentola” - Willson Auditorium, 406-587-2889

May 16-17, 23-24, 30-31
“The Last Five Years” - 8 p.m., Verge Theater, 406-587-0737

May 17
Get Published Conference for Writers - 9 a.m., Best Western GranTree Inn, 406-599-4433
The BIG Event - Gallatin River Hideaway, 406-587-1216

May 20-22
Andrew Gromiller and the Organically Grown - 7 p.m., Verge Theater, 406-587-0737

May 23
“American Indian Music: Even More Than Drums and Flutes” - noon-1 p.m., Bozeman Public Library, 406-243-6022

June 13
Art Walk - 6-8 p.m., downtown and The Emerson, 406-586-4008

June 14
Western Rendezvous - 4 p.m.-midnight, Eagle Mount Arena, 406-586-1781

June 16, 23, 30
Jazz and More ... with Kelly Roberti - 7 p.m., Bozeman Public Library, 406-582-2426

June 18-21
“As You Like It” - 8 p.m., MSU Grove, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, 406-994-3901

June 21
“Untrammelled” Film and Concert - 6 p.m., Lindley Park Pavilion, 406-556-2822

June 25-28
“Romeo and Juliet” - 8 p.m., MSU Grove, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, 406-994-3901

June 26
Music on Main - 6:30-8:30 p.m., Main Street, 406-586-4008

June 29
The Day on the Green: The Hooligans - 4-7 p.m., Bozeman Public Library Plaza, 406-582-2426

Butte

May 2, June 6
Art Walk - 5-9 p.m., uptown, 406-497-6464

June 14
Miners Union Day - 9 a.m., World Museum of Mining, 406-723-7211

Corvallis

June 7
“Mrs. Woody’s Trunk Full of Memories” - noon-1 p.m., Simpson Lane, 406-243-6022

Creston

May 10, 17-18
Bibler Home and Gardens Spring Tours - 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m., Bibler Gardens, 406-756-3632

May 11
Mother’s Day Brunch - 11 a.m., Bibler Gardens, 406-756-3632

ARTS CALENDAR, MAY/JUNE

Deer Lodge

May 1
Dancing with Our Stars for Tina’s House - 6:30 p.m., Rialto Community Theatre, 406-560-8162
Deer Lodge Dancing with the Stars - Rialto Theatre, 406-846-7900
May 8-11, 15-18
“Cinderella” - Cutler Brothers Theater, 406-846-4115
June 14
Territorial Days - Main Street, 406-846-2094
June 28
Deer Lodge Vintage Day - 10 a.m.-5 p.m., fairgrounds, 406-498-4144

Dillon

June 7
“Firearms of the American Frontier Experience” - 2-3 p.m., Bannack State Park, 406-834-3413
June 14
“Brother Can You Spare a Dime?” - 7-8 p.m., Bannack State Park, 406-834-3413
June 21
“A Vacuum of Law: Montana’s Vigilantes in 1863-64” - 2-3 p.m., Bannack State Park, 406-843-3413

Fort Benton

June 27-29
Summer Celebration - various venues, 406-750-2918

Fort Peck

May 30-June 1, June 6-8
“Driving Miss Daisy” - Fort Peck Theater, 406-228-9216
June 13-15, 20-22, 27-29
“Buddy, The Buddy Holly Story” - Fort Peck Theater, 406-228-9216

Georgetown Lake

June 29
St. Timothy’s Summer Music Festival: Joy and Karin Gunderson, Heaven Harps - 4 p.m., St. Timothy’s Chapel, 888-407-4071 ext. 1

Glendive

June 7
Drum Wars - 7 p.m., Dawson Community College, 406-377-7977

Glasgow

May 17
Bonnie City Blues and Brews Festival - 4 p.m., Cottonwood Inn, 406-228-2222

Great Falls

May 1, June 1
Deeling Gregory, “Prairie Passages” - Amazing Gallery (inside Amazing Toys), 406-727-5557
May 1-3
Great Falls Festival of the Book - Great Falls Public Library, 406-453-0349
May 2
Chris Botti - 7:30 p.m., Mansfield Theater, The Great Falls Symphony, 406-453-4102
May 2, June 6
First Friday Art Walk - 5-9 p.m., downtown, 406-453-6103
May 3
Empty Bowls - 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Chapel Theatre at the Columbus Center, 406-452-1315
May 4
16th Anniversary - noon-5 p.m., Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, 406-727-8733
Chinook Winds Quintet: “182 Keys” - 2 p.m., First Congregational/Christ United Methodist Church, 406-453-4102
May 6
Chinook Winds Quintet: “182 Keys” - 7 p.m., C.M. Russell Museum, 406-453-4102
May 6-10
Spring Open House - 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Eve Pottery, 406-452-9155
May 8
Archeology Program - 5:30-7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, 406-727-8733
May 8, 15, 22, 29
“Civil War 150” Presentation - 7 p.m., Great Falls Public Library, 406-453-0349
May 10, June 14
Unfinished Objects Work Session - 10 a.m.-noon, C.M. Russell Museum, 406-727-8787
May 14-15, 17-18
Book Sale - Great Falls Public Library, 406-453-0349
May 15
Andrew Gromiller and the Organically Grown - 8 p.m., University of Great Falls Theatre, 406-761-8210
May 16-17, 23-24, 30-31
“Boeing Boeing” - Montana Actors’ Theatre, 406-315-1953



Grace Nolan practicing for her upcoming role as Little Cosette in “Les Miserables” for the MCT Center for the Performing Arts in Missoula. Grandstreet Theatre in Helena is also staging “Les Miserables” in May. (Photo by Megan Stanke)

May 17
Cascade Quartet and Chinook Winds Quintet: “Chamber Fun 101” - 7:30 p.m., Heritage Hall at Great Falls College-MSU, 406-453-4102
Miss Linda’s School of Dance: “Addie’s Exceptionally Average School Adventure” - 7 p.m., Mansfield Theater, 406-455-8514
May 18
Mack Bailey - 2:30 p.m., Mansfield Theater, Great Falls Community Concert, 406-455-8514
May 28
“An Evening with Pierre Cruzatte’s Ghost” - 8-9 p.m., University of Great Falls Library Exhibit Space, 406-243-6022
May 31
Return of the Galvanized Yankees Encampment - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Great Falls Public Library, 406-453-0349
June 5, 12, 19
“Civil War 150” Presentation - 7 p.m., Great Falls Public Library, 406-453-0349
June 5
“Lincoln and Liberty, Too: Songs as Sound Clips from the Civil War” - 7-8 p.m., Great Falls Public Library, 406-453-0349
June 7
“Bonnets and Battlefields, an Interactive Experience” - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Great Falls Public Library, 406-453-0349
Signing: Ken Robison - 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Leslie’s Hallmark, 406-453-6663
June 12
Chuck Mead and His Grassy Knoll Boys - 8 p.m., Machinery Row, 406-452-5462
June 17
“Untrammeled” Film and Concert - University of Great Falls Theatre, 406-728-2184
June 19
“Homestead Dreams” - 6-7 p.m., Giant Springs State Park, 406-243-6022
June 19-22
Lewis and Clark Festival - Gibson Park, 406-452-5661
June 26
Riverside Voices - 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, 406-727-8733

Hamilton
May 1
Hilary Hahn - 7:30 p.m., Hamilton Performing Arts Center, Bitterroot Performing Arts Council, 406-363-7946
May 2, 9, 30
Country Western Public Dance - 7:30-11:30 p.m., Bedford Building, 406-370-7551
May 2, June 6
First Friday - 6-8 p.m., downtown, 406-363-2400
May 8
“Art of Glacier National Park” - 6 p.m., Ravalli County Museum, 406-363-3338
May 10
Mother’s Day Tea - noon-2 p.m., Daly Mansion, 406-363-6004
May 17-18
Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society Show - Ravalli County Fairgrounds, First Interstate Center, 406-777-9865

Deadline for the July/August Arts Calendar is May 25, 2014

TO SUBMIT AN EVENT:
• www.livelytimes.com,
click on submit an event
• email: writeus@livelytimes.com
• to send by mail:
Lively Times, 33651 Eagle Pass Trail,
Charlo, MT 59824



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May 30
A Night Out at Sapphire - 6 p.m., Sapphire Lutheran Homes, 406-363-3338
June 13-15
Montana Professional Artists’ Association Show and Sale - Bitterroot River Inn, 406-961-3887
June 28
Bitter Root Day - 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Ravalli County Museum, 406-363-3338

Hardin

June 25-29
Little Big Horn Days and Custer’s Last Stand Reenactment - various venues, 406-665-3577

Havre

May 1-3, 8-10
“Chicago” - 8 p.m., Montana Actors’ Theatre, 406-945-0272
May 23-24, 29-31, June 5-7
“Baby with the Bathwater” - 8 p.m., Montana Actors’ Theatre, 406-945-0272
May 24-26
Blackpowder Shoot - 8 a.m., Fort Assiniboine, 406-265-7431
June 18, 25
Sounds on the Square - 6-8 p.m., Town Square, 406-265-4383

Helena

May 1-4, 7-10, 14-18
“Les Miserables” - Grandstreet Theatre, 406-442-4270
May 2
Arlo Guthrie: “Here Come the Kids,” The 100th Birthday of Woody Guthrie - 7:30 p.m., Myrna Loy Center, 406-443-0287
May 3-4
Antique Show - Helena Civic Center, 406-442-5595
May 3
Helena Symphony: “War, Peace, and Fate” - 7:30 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 406-442-1860
May 8
Reading: Gwen Florio - 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Library, 406-447-1690
May 9-10
Helena Chamber Singers: A Potpourri of Music - 7:30 p.m., St. John’s Lutheran Church, 406-459-8259
May 9
Wine Fair - 6:30-10 p.m., Algeria Shrine Temple, 406-459-7112
Morgan Thorson Dance, “You” - 7:30 p.m., Myrna Loy, 406-443-0287
May 10-11
A Celebration of American Music - 7:30 p.m., St. Paul’s United Methodist Church 406-442-2132
May 10
Don’t Fence Me In Trail Run - 7 a.m., Pioneer Heritage Park, 406-442-0490
May 10, 14
“La Cenerentola” - Great Northern Cinemark 8, 406-442-4225

Continued on next page



Andrew Gromiller and the Organically Grown Band will be playing in Bozeman, Anaconda, Big Timber, Great Falls and Livingston.

**“Untrammeled”:
Film, concert
tour celebrate
Wilderness Act**

A new film celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, which examines the transformative power of wilderness on youth and the importance of getting young people into Montana’s backcountry, debuted in April at The University of Montana, and travels across the state this summer in tandem with a concert tour by Jack Gladstone.

The 27-minute documentary, “Untrammeled,” refers to a defining characteristic of wilderness from the 1964 enabling legislation that established the National Wilderness Preservation System.

“It’s time for us old-timers who are getting gray around the ears to pass the torch along,” said legendary outfitter Smoke Elser. “And that starts by introducing our youth to Montana’s wild country so they can develop their own appreciation for it.”

The statewide tour kicks off June 17 at the University of Great Falls Theatre with a film screening and concert by Jack Gladstone, Philip Aaberg and Rob Quist (406-728-2184). Next, Gladstone performs in Bozeman June 21 for “The Longest Day of Wilderness” festivities (406-556-2822). The concert and film tour continues through September with stops in Libby, Choteau, Seeley Lake, Fort Peck, Helena, and Missoula.



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Symphony
brings
Chris Botti to
Great Falls

The Great Falls Symphony presents today’s top-selling American instrumental artist, trumpeter Chris Botti, with his nine-piece jazz ensemble, 7:30 p.m. May 2 at the Mansfield Theater.

His performance is part of the World Artist Series, which began in 2004 when the symphony “took a leap of faith – along with a very large financial commitment – to bring internationally beloved cellist Yo-Yo Ma to perform with the Great Falls Symphony,” says Executive Director Carolyn Valacich. The performance sold out in a few days, and the World Artist Series began.

Building upon the success of that first endeavor to bring world-class artists to Montana, the symphony has since brought such greats as violinists Itzhak Perlman, Midori and Joshua Bell, flutist Sir James Galway and percussionist Evelyn Glennie to town.

“We take great pride in bringing this level of talent to Great Falls,” says Music Director Gordon Johnson. “Our primary objective is to bring to our city the same level of talent one might hear in major American cities, at a fraction of the ticket cost.”

Botti, he adds, “is one of the foremost jazz artists of our generation.”

Visit gfsymphony.org for details.

ARTS CALENDAR, MAY/JUNE

May 10

Mother’s Day Pots and Plants Sale - 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Archie Bray Foundation, 406-443-3502

May 15

Reading: David Abrams - 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Library, 406-447-1690
Reading: Rae Ellen Lee - 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Library, 406-447-1690

May 17

Diamond Rio - 8 p.m., Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds, 406-457-8516
History Fair - 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Downtown Walking Mall, 406-447-8357
Wine Crush and a Taste of Helena - 7 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 406-442-7479
Frontier Ball - 7 p.m., Windsor Ballroom, Montana Living History, 406-458-3700

May 24

Artist Talk: Kristen Kieffer - 7:30 p.m., Archie Bray Foundation, 406-443-3502

June 4, 11, 18, 25

Alive at Five - 5-9 p.m., downtown, 406-447-1535

June 6-8

“Honk Jr.” - Grandstreet Theatre, 406-442-4270

June 9

Helena Rhythm Dancers - 7:30 p.m., Myrna Loy Center, 406-443-0287

June 12

“Living with Antique Furniture Restoration” - 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Library, 406-447-1690

June 16

Terrance Simien and the Zydeco Experience - 7:30 p.m., Myrna Loy Center, 406-443-0287

June 18

Artist Talk: Ayumi Horie and Andy Brayman - 7:30 p.m., Archie Bray Foundation, 406-443-3502

June 20

Holter Museum of Art Gala and Auction - 5-9 p.m., Gateway Center, 406-442-6400

June 22-23

Big Sky Alive Montana Composers and Musicians Festival - Myrna Loy Center, 406-443-0287

June 30

End of Ed Noonan’s Era at the Myrna - 6 p.m., Myrna Loy Center, 406-443-0287

Heron

May 9-10, 16-18

“Still Laughing” - Community Center, 509-218-7833

Hot Springs

May 16-18

“Scarlet Ribbons” - Symes Hotel, 406-741-2361

Jefferson City

May 9-11

Spring Sale - Harpfarm Pottery Works, 406-461-1186

Kalispell

May 3-4

Artists and Craftsmen of the Flathead Springtime Arts and Crafts Show - Flathead County Fairgrounds Expo Building, 406-881-4288
Gifts and Collectibles Bonanza - 10 a.m.-6 p.m., The Gym, 406-755-4340

May 10-11

Glacier Symphony and Chorale: “The Ecstatic Sea” - Flathead High School Performance Hall, 406-407-7000



Jazz great Chris Botti and his nine-piece band perform in Great Falls as part of the World Artist Series.

May 14, June 11, 18, 25

“Reflect Conversations” - noon-1 p.m., Herron Park, 406-243-6022

Laurin

June 29

“Climbing Mountains in Skirts: Pretty Shields” - 2 p.m., Linderman Cabin, 406-843-5507

Lewistown

June 11-14

The Path Less Traveled: Montana Preservation Road Show - downtown, 406-457-2822

June 13

Montana Preservation Alliance Concert - 7-9 p.m., Jack’s Hangar, Lewistown Airport, 406-457-2822

Libby

May 22

“Profiles of African American Montanans” - 7-8 p.m., Memorial Center Little Theater, 406-243-6022

May 31

“Haunted Montana: Where the Ghosts Are!” - 11 a.m.-noon, Heritage Museum, 406-243-6022

Livingston

May 1

Reading: Joshua Phillips - 7 p.m., Elk River Books, Elk River Arts and Lectures, 406-224-5802

May 2

Taste of Livingston - 6:30 p.m., Livingston Depot Center, 406-222-8808

May 9

Andrew Gromiller and the Organically Grown - 8 p.m., Buckhorn Theatre, 406-222-9600

May 9-10, 16-18, 23-25, 30-31

“Barefoot in The Park” - Blue Slipper Theatre, 406-222-7720

May 15

“Stories of the Medical Profession in Park County” - 6:30 p.m., Livingston-Park County Public Library, Yellowstone Gateway Museum, 406-222-4184

May 22

Book Release Party - 7 p.m., Elk River Books, 406-224-5802

May 29

Reading: Michael Earl Craig - 7 p.m., Elk River Books, 406-224-5802

May 3

Reading: Lori Micken - 7 p.m., Elk River Books, 406-224-5802

June 7-8

Montana Spring Knap-In Weekend - Yellowstone Gateway Museum, 406-222-4184

June 10

Reading: Molly Caro May - 7 p.m., Elk River Books, 406-224-5802

June 16

Bloomsday: “Nighttown Suidae” - 7 p.m., Elk River Books, 406-224-5802

June 21

Reading: Joe Arnold and Paige Arnold - 2-4 p.m., Elk River Books, 406-224-5802

June 24

Reading: Aaron Parrett - 7 p.m., Elk River Books, 406-224-5802

June 27

Art Walk - 5:30-8:30 p.m., downtown, 406-222-0850

Miles City

May 17

Western Art Roundup Quick Draw and Auction - Riverside Park, 406-234-0635

Missoula

May 1-3, 6-10

“A Midsummer Night’s Dream” - 7:30 p.m., UM Montana Theatre, PARTV Center, 406-243-4581

May 1-4, 7-11

“Les Miserables” - MCT Center for the Performing Arts, 406-728-PLAY

May 1

“The Nature and Scope of Religious Freedom” - 8 p.m., University Center Ballroom, President’s Lecture Series, 406-243-2419

May 2, June 6

First Friday - 5:30-9 p.m., downtown, 406-532-3240

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Improv Comedy and Sketch Shows - 8 and 10 p.m., Stensrud Playhouse, 406-926-2477

May 2-3

“Prison Boxing” - Crystal Theatre, 406-461-5444

May 2

Project Selvedge Fashion Show - 6:30 p.m., Selvedge Studio, 406-541-7171

Spring Moon Square Dance - 8 p.m., Downtown Dance Collective, Old Time Montana, 206-227-4036

May 3-4, 10-11, 17-18, 24-25, 31-June 1, June 7-8, 14-15

“Bullets for Broadway” Dinner Theatre - Stensrud Playhouse, 406-926-2477

May 3

Eli Young Band - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

Mozartiana - noon, Top Hat, 406-549-5155

The Light Show - 5-10 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn, 406-549-5329

May 3-4

Western Montana Woodcarvers Show - Western Montana Fairgrounds, Bldg. 35, 406-273-4219

May 4

Lunafest - 6-9 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-543-6691

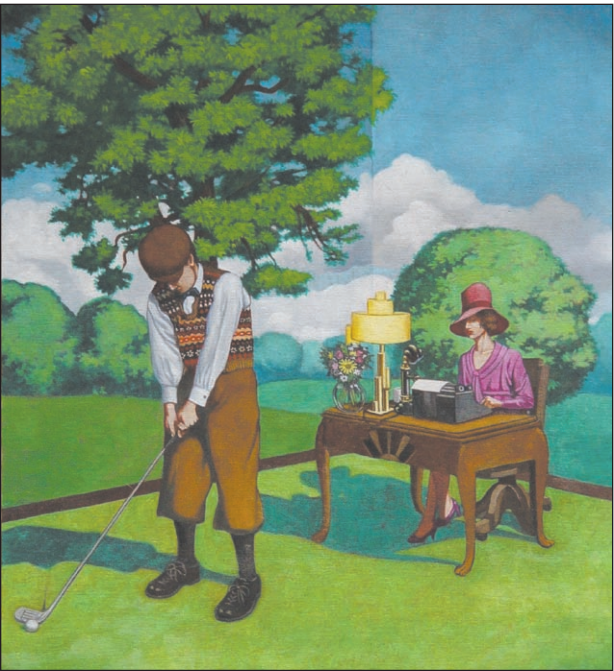
String Orchestra of the Rockies: Violinist from Down Under, Adele Anthony plays Eric Ewazen - 7:30 p.m., UM Music Recital Hall, 406-493-2990

May 6

“Cosi fan tutte” - 6:30 p.m., Roxy Theater, 406-322-2589

May 6-10

Dance New Works - Open Space, PARTV Center, 406-243-4581



Tom Quinn’s “Art Deco” is among the auction items at The Light Show in Missoula May 3.

May 6

Wilderness Issues Lecture Series - 7:10-8:30 p.m., UM Gallagher Business Building, Room 122, Wilderness Institute at University of Montana, 406-243-6916

May 9

Alumni Showcase - 7:30 p.m., UM Music Recital Hall, 406-243-6880
Missoula Community Chorus Spring Concert - 7:30 p.m., St. Anthony’s Church, 406-493-9255
Neal Lewing Alumni Concert - 7:30 p.m., UM Music Recital Hall, 406-243-6880
Reception: “Dream House” - 5:30 p.m., Zootown Arts Community Center, 406-549-7555
Spring Thaw - 4-7 p.m., University of Montana Oval, University of Montana Entertainment Management Program, 406-471-6813

May 10

James Walker, flute - 7:30 p.m., UM Music Recital Hall, 406-243-6880
“La Cenerentola” - 11 a.m., Roxy Theater, 406-322-2589
The Maker’s Ball Fashion Show - Missoula Public Library, Missoula Public Library MakerSpace, 406-721-2665

May 18

Tech N9ne - 7:30 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

May 19

Junior Sisk and Ramblers Choice - 7 p.m., Ruby’s Inn, 406-546-6327

May 22

Charity Golf Classic - 11 a.m.-6 p.m., The Ranch Club, Family Promise of Missoula and Southgate Mall, 406-728-0500
Monster Flicks: Big Fires on the Big Screen ... - 7 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-531-8264

May 23-26

MisCon 28 - Ruby’s Inn, 406-360-8876

June 1

“In My Life - A Musical Theater Tribute to The Beatles” - 7 p.m., UM Dennison Theatre, 406-243-4051

June 4, 11, 18, 25

Out to Lunch - 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Caras Park, 406-543-4238

June 5, 12, 19, 26

Downtown Tonight - 5:30-8:30 p.m., Caras Park, 406-543-4238

June 5

The Fray - 7 p.m., Big Sky Brewery, 406-549-2777

June 18

Don Williams - 7:30 p.m., UM Dennison Theatre, 406-243-4051

ARTS CALENDAR, MAY/JUNE

June 19
Reading: Joe Nickell - 6 p.m., Missoula Art Museum, 406-728-0447

June 20-21
The Last Best Solstice (Art on the River) - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Caras Park and artists' studios, 406-541-0860

June 28-29
"The Little Mermaid" - 3 and 5 p.m., MCT Center for the Performing Arts, 406-728-7529

June 29
Fitz and the Tantrums - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

Nevada City
May 8-9
Montana Territory History Days - 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Alder Gulch, 406-843-5247

May 24-26
Living History Weekends: The Gold Discovery - Alder Gulch, Montana Heritage Commission, 406-843-5247

May 31-June 1, June 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, 28-29
Living History Weekends - Alder Gulch, Montana Heritage Commission, 406-843-5247

Pablo
June 28
People's Art Market - 10 a.m.-3 p.m., People's Center, 406-675-0160

Philipsburg
June 26, 28
The Vaudeville Variety Show - 7 p.m., Opera House Theatre, 406-859-0013

June 27, 29
"Current Economic Conditions" - Opera House Theatre, 406-859-0013

Polson
May 3
Salish Kootenai College Foundation Art Auction and Gala - 5:30 p.m., KwaTaqNuk Resort, 406-275-4820

May 16-18, 23-25
"Once Upon A Mattress" - John Dowdall Theatre, 406-883-9212

Red Lodge
June 12-13, 15
Red Lodge Music Festival Student Recitals - Civic Center, 406-256-5210

Ronan
May 3
Montana A Cappella Society - 7:30 p.m., Ronan Performing Arts Center, 406-676-2427

Seeley Lake
May 22-25
Painting for a Dream - 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Rich's Montana Guest Ranch, 406-677-2317

Sheridan
May 4
"Charlie Russell's Pranks and Stunts as Told by Sid Willis" - 7-8 p.m., Public Library, 406-243-6022

Sidney
June 1
"Montana by Foods: A Taste of the Past" - Mon-Dak Heritage Center, 406-433-3500

June 13-15
Richland County Centennial Celebration - fairgrounds, 406-433-2801

Stevensville
May 2, June 6
First Friday - 6-9 p.m., downtown, 406-777-3773

May 2-4, 9-11, 16-18
"Whistle Down the Wind" - Stevensville Playhouse, 406-777-2722

Three Forks
June 14
"Firearms of the American Frontier Experience" - 7-8 p.m., Missouri Headwaters State Park, 406-243-6022

Vaughn
May 18, June 29
Fiddle Jam - 1-5 p.m., Mary's Midway, 406-467-2866

Virginia City
May 10
"Famous People - Favorite Poems" - 7 p.m., Elling House, 406-843-5507

May 23-25, 28-June 1, June 4-6, June 7-30
The Brewery Follies - Old H.S. Gilbert Brewery, 800-829-2969

May 24
Spring Horseback Poker Ride - 8:30 a.m., Bale of Hay Saloon, 406-843-5700

Summer Kick-off Parade - 1:30 p.m., Main Street, 406-843-5429

May 30-June 1
Daylight Creek Mountain Man Rendezvous - 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Daylight Creek Encampment, 800-829-2969

May 31-June 1, June 3-8, 10-15, 17-22, 24-29
"The Cat and the Canary" - Opera House, 800-829-2969 ext. 2

June 13-15
Irish Weekend - various venues, 406-933-5759

June 21
Grand Victorian Ball - 7 p.m., Community Center Ballroom, 406-682-4935 or 431-0714



Summer Season begins May 23 for the Brewery Follies in Virginia City.

June 27-29
Virginia City Art Show - boardwalk and Community Center, 800-829-2969

Whitefish
May 1, June 5
Gallery Night - 6-9 p.m., downtown, 406-862-5929

May 3-4
Black Curtain Theatre: "Talk of the Town Under the Big Sky" - 7:30 p.m., I.A. O'Shaughnessy Center, 406-862-5371

May 28-31, June 5-7
Cabaret Theatre: "Boeing Boeing" - 7:30 p.m., I.A. O'Shaughnessy Center, 406-862-5371

June 6
Whitefish Review Launch Party and Gary Ferguson Reading - 7 p.m., Lakeshore Tent Pavilion at The Lodge at Whitefish Lake, 406-261-6190

June 13-14
The Hit Men - 7:30 p.m., Whitefish Theatre Company, 406-862-5370

Whitehall
June 20
"Penny Postcards and Prairie Flowers" - 8-9 p.m., Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park, 406-243-6022

Wibaux
June 16
"Firearms of the American Frontier Experience" - 6-7 p.m., Wibaux Museum Complex, 406-243-6022

Willow Creek
June 20
Willow Creek Festival - 5-9 p.m., various venues, 406-285-4709

Yellow Bay
May 17
Flathead Cherry Blossom Festival - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Yellow Bay Club House, 406-982-3437

Bozeman
Emerson Center Jessie Wilber Gallery and Lobby: Jennifer Pulchinski, "We," and Jan Elpel, "A Celebration of Life Drawing," May 9-June 27, receptions 5-8 p.m. May 9 and June 13; and Richard Parrish, Barry Hood, Ona Magaro and Kathleen Sheard, "Live Glass: Glass Lives," through May 3; 406-587-9797

Museum of the Rockies: "Geckos: Tails to Toepads," through Sept. 8; 406-994-2251

Nova Cafe: Ryan Mitchell and Allie "Gato" Buck, "Gangbusters and Gato: A Potter and a Painter," through May 14; 406-587-3973

Spanish Peak Gallery: Darla Myers, "innerCIRCLES," through June 2, reception 5-8 p.m. May 2; and Bob Crystal, June 6-30, reception 5-8 p.m. June 6; 406-586-3238

tart in the Emerson Center: Cathy Weber, "Evidence of Flight," through May 7; 406-582-0416

Wild Joe's Coffee Spot: Ellen Kuntz, "Reverie," through May; 406-586-1212

Zoot Art Gallery: Colton Stiffler and Jordan Roberts, "Defying Urban Xperience," June 1-Aug. 31, reception 5-8 p.m. June 12; 406-556-8930

Butte
Carle Gallery in the Butte-Silver Bow Library: Tessa Heck, through May 23; and Martha Cooney's adult student paintings; "Out at the Library," June 3-28, reception 5-8 p.m. June 17; 406-723-3361

Double Lazy S Guitars: Mary Christopher, through May, reception 5-9 p.m. May 2; 406-533-5309

Main Stope Gallery: Ray Campeau, through May, reception 5-9 p.m. May 2; and Lauretta Bonfiglio, June 1-30, reception 5-9 p.m. June 6; 406-723-9195

Continued on next page



MPAA hosts 10th annual show in Hamilton

The Montana Professional Artists Association hosts its 10th annual Art Show and Sale June 13-15 at the Bitterroot River Inn in Hamilton. The event kicks off from 6-10 p.m. Friday with a free old-fashioned barbecue, music, and a first look at artists' displays.

The show continues from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. View oil paintings, pastels, watercolors and bronze sculptures by professional artists from across the state, who offer demonstrations of the various media throughout the weekend.

The three-day event features the entire membership of this unique Montana group. Its membership includes Mari Bolen, Marcia Ballowe, Cynthia Fisher, Ronald Lowery, Michele Kapor, Barbara Michelman, Kathleen Sheard, Joe Thornbrugh and Elene Weege.

For more information, visit www.montanaprofessionalartistsassoc.com or call 406-961-3887 or 406-777-0553.

EXHIBITIONS, MAY/JUNE

Anaconda
Copper Village Museum and Arts Center: "The Japanese Wood Block Prints: An Extension of the Impermanent," May 1-31; and "Irish Archives," June 3-28; 406-563-2422

Big Timber
Two Rivers Gallery: Savoring Spring Fine Art Show, through June 18, reception 5-7 p.m. May 16; and Sweet Grass Summer Fine Art Show, June 20-July 18, reception 5-7 p.m. June 20; both shows feature Ed Totten, Pam Earlywine and Diane Draper; 406-932-4009

Bigfork
Bigfork Museum of Art and History: Members' Show and Sale, through May, reception 5-7 p.m. May 2; Sally Johnsons, David Clough and Greg Thigpen, "Buildings, Birds and Beasts: Works in Wood and Photographs," June 6-July 4, reception 5-7 p.m. June 6; 406-837-6927

Billings
Catherine Louisa Gallery: Jane Waggoner Deschner, "Altered Moments: Work with Found Photographs," through May 14, reception 5 p.m. May 9; 406-670-7746

Sandstone Gallery: John Havener, Sue Hammersmark and Jolene Yellowrobe, May 1-31, reception 5-9 p.m. May 2; Mary Hopper and Mike Carl, June 1-30, reception 5-8 p.m. June 6; 406-256-5837

Western Heritage Center: "Secret Life of Artifacts: Native American Design,"

through Dec. 20; "Montana Modern: Exploring Our State's Modernist Architecture," through June 7; and "Echoes of Eastern Montana: Stories from an Open Country," ongoing; 406-256-6809

Yellowstone Art Museum: Crow Agency Exhibition, through May 25, reception 1-3 p.m. May 10; "Stunning European Loans," through May; works by Joseph Henry Sharp and C.M. Russell, through July; "Face to Face, Wall to Wall," through Aug. 24; "Un/Conscious Bent: A Survey of Regional Surrealism," through Aug. 20; and "Boundless Visions," ongoing; 406-256-6804



Cathy Weber's porcelain nest birds will be on display at tart gallery in the Emerson through May 7.



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Montana Preservation Road Show comes to Lewistown

See where history happened and learn how to keep it alive during the Montana Preservation Road Show, June 11-14 in Lewistown and central Montana.

Ride and float along with historians, preservationists, archaeologists, tribal experts and authors during this annual event. Participants visit everything from ancient rock art sites to historic trails, depots to barns, and churches to Missouri Breaks homesteads.

Tour highlights include Back-in-Time boat trips through the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument and visits to pictographs, and barns of the Judith Basin, and a walking tour of downtown Lewistown.

Archaeologist Jim Keyser, a specialist on Plains Indian rock art, is the keynote speaker. Other presenters include: Lewis and Clark historian Stephenie Ambrose Tubbs, photographer Jeremy Lurgio, anthropologist Maria Zedeno, architectural historian Mark Hufstetler, environmental studies professor Rosalyn LaPier, and Sarah Hansen, director of Washington Main Street.

For details, visit preservemontana.org.

EXHIBITIONS, MAY/JUNE

Charlo

Ninepipes Museum of Early Montana: “Images From the Past: Women in Our World,” and “Pipes and Pipebags,” through October; 406-644-3435

Colstrip

Schoolhouse History and Art Center: Dwayne Wilcox, “Above the Fruited Plains,” May 1-15; Colstrip High School Seniors Scholarship Show, May 16-30; and Southeastern Montana Juried Exhibit, June 9-30; 406-748-4822

Deer Lodge

The Pen Gallery, Old Prison Museums: William Henry Jackson, Thomas Moran and others, “Yellowstone Engraved,” May 15-Sept. 30; 406-846-3111

Dillon

The Art Scene Gallery: Myra Sommers, May 2-31, reception 5-8 p.m. May 2; “Matted Rack Sale,” May 2-31; and Don Thompson, June 2-30, reception 5-8 p.m. June 6; 406-683-2860

Great Falls

4 West Art League Gallery: Sherry Tuss, “The Power of the Flower for Mom,” reception 6-9 p.m. May 2; and Kurt Kraft, June 6-30, reception 6-9 p.m. June 6; 406-453-1534

Amazing Gallery (inside Amazing Toys): Deeling Gregory, “Prairie Passages,” ongoing; 406-727-5557

Bert and Ernie’s: Arts Association of Montana artists, “The Garden Art Show,” May 30-Aug. 1; 406-453-0601

C.M. Russell Museum: “George Catlin’s American Buffalo,” May 31-Sept. 14; 406-727-8787

Eve Pottery: “Spring Open House,” 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. May 6-10; 406-452-9155

Great Falls Public Library: “Civil War 150: Exploring the War and Its Meaning Through the Words of Those Who Lived It,” May 26-June 16, reception 6 p.m. May 29, 406-453-0349

Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art: Louis Delgado, “Line, Boundary and Potential,” through July 19; Great Falls Public Schools Exhibit, through May 15; 406-727-8255

Parking Garage at 315 First Ave. South and Bert and Ernie’s: Summer Urban Art Project, June 5-Sept. 5, reception 5-7 p.m. June 9; 406-452-9315

Hamilton

Daly Mansion: “I Do: A Cultural History of Montana Weddings,” May 11-Aug. 1; 406-363-6004

Frame Shop and Gallery: Linda Stoudt and Barbara Warden, June 6-July 31, reception 5-8 p.m. June 6; 406-363-6684

Ravalli County Museum: World War II Exhibit, ongoing; 406-363-3338

Havre

Artitudes Gallery: Jim Bauer, “Beautiful Minds,” May-June, reception 6-8 p.m. May 9; Thomas Marinkovich, “Batik You,” through May; Mary Nault, “Acrylic Adventure, June-July, reception 6-8 p.m. June 13; 406-265-2104

High Line Heritage House Museum: “Local Trailblazing Women and Women Firsts” and Charlie Russell and Bob Scriver sculpture exhibit, through summer; 406-399-5225

Helena

Archie Bray Foundation: Visiting Artists Exhibition, May 23-Sept. 7; Bray Community Class Student Exhibition, through May 17; Resident Artists Exhibition and Benefit Auction, June 12-July 26, reception 6-8 p.m. June 12; 406-443-3502

Free Ceramics: Spring Pottery Sale, May 2-4; 406-438-6212

Holter Museum of Art: Archie Bray Second-Year Fellowship Exhibition, “Lost Bricks: Photographs of Western Clay Manufacturing Company,” May 30-Aug. 30, joint reception 6-8 p.m. May 30; Auction Exhibition, May 30-June 19; and “The Trunk Show: Montana Bricolage Artists,” June 25-Sept. 14. Continuing through May 18, 40th Annual Youth Electrum; and Arthur Simms and Lucy Fradkin, “Intimate Worlds”; 406-442-6400

Montana Historical Society: “Montana’s Territorial Legacy: The Montana Historical Society,” through next May, reception 6-8 p.m. May 22; “Historical Footwear” and “Domestic Economy,” ongoing; 406-444-4753

Turman Larison Contemporary: 14th Anniversary Show, May 9-June 7, reception 6-8 p.m. May 9; Linda Stoudt, Gesine Janzen and Christine Joy exhibit, through May 3; and Ellen Ornitz and Bev Glueckert, June 13-July 12; 406-443-0340

Hot Springs

On the Wall Gallery: Photography Show, through May 2; 406-849-5002

Jefferson City

Harpfarm Pottery Works: Lisa Ernest, Peggy Amtzis and Dick Torkildson, Spring Sale, May 9-11; 406-461-1186

Kalispell

Conrad Mansion Museum: “A Glimpse at ‘Downton Abbey’ Era Fashions 1912-1923,” May 15-Oct. 15; 406-755-2166

Hockaday Museum of Art: Miniatures Exhibition, May 1-17; “Montana Artists: Innovators, Inventors and Entrepreneurs,” May 8-June 21, reception 5-7 p.m. May 8; “Montana Artists,” May 8-June 21; High School Students Art Exhibit, “New Artists 2014,” closes May 3; “A Journey Through History: Art and Artifacts from the Collection of Dr. Van Kirke and Helen Nelson,” May 29-July 26, reception 5-7 p.m. May 29. 406-755-5268

Museum at Central School:

“Bob Marshall Wilderness Society,” through June. Ongoing exhibits: History of the Flathead Valley, Indians of the Northwest, Montana Pioneer Frank Bird Linderman, and Timber Industry in Northwest Montana; 406-756-8381

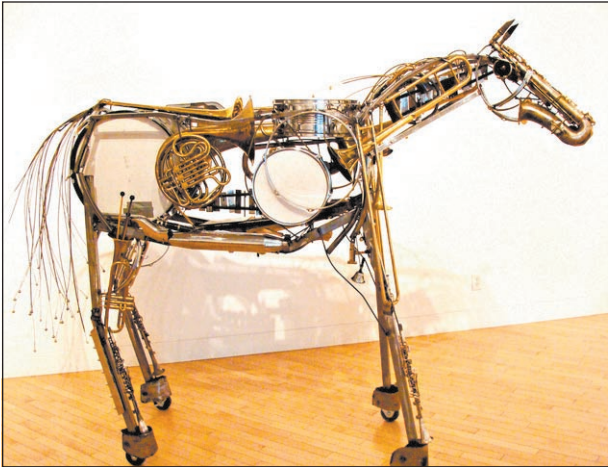
Lewistown

Lewistown Art Center: Bill Ryder and Linda Short, “Spirit of the Horse,” May 1-31, reception 5-7 p.m. May 16; the Art Mobile of Montana, May 15-16; Montana Watercolor Society Exhibition, June 3-28, reception 5-7 p.m. June 21; 406-535-8278

Out of Our Hands Gallery: Harry Felton, Susan Ostlind Lohmuller, and Clint Loomis, “Touched,” through June 27, reception 7-9 p.m. May 16; 406-538-2596

Livingston

Danforth Gallery: “Feast,” through June 20; 406-222-6510



Sculptures by Bill Ryder are on display at the Lewistown Art Center in “Spirit of the Horse.”

Livingston Center for Art and Culture: Shirl Ireland and John Stacy, “Formaldehyde to Fine Art,” June 17-July 12, reception 7 p.m. June 19; and Yellowstone National Park Heritage and Research Center artifacts; 406-222-5222

Livingston Depot Center: Warren McGee Retrospective, May 24-Sept. 14; 406-222-2300

Miles City

WaterWorks Art Museum: Blue Buffalo Artists, “Western Art Roundup,” through June 13, reception 9:30-11:30 a.m. May 18; and “By Design: Wax, Woods and Welds,” June 21-Aug. 8, reception 1-4 p.m. June 21; 406-234-0635

Missoula

4 Ravens Gallery: Bonnie Tarses, “The Power Gathering Over Time,” through May, reception 5-8 p.m. May 2; and Cassiel Leroux, “Quotidian Artifacts: Works in Clay and Paint,” June 1-30, reception 5-8 p.m. June 6; 406-317-1543

Artists’ Shop: Don Jones, through May, reception 5-8 p.m. May 2; and Nancy Seiler, June 1-30, reception 5-8 p.m. June 6; 406-543-6393

Dana Gallery: “Icons of the West,” May 16-Aug. 15; 406-721-3154

Historical Museum at Fort Missoula: “Growing the Garden City: Missoula’s First 50 Years,” ongoing; “The Missoula Camera Club,” closes May 4, 2015; and “The University of Montana During World War II,” May 5-July 7; 406-728-3476

Missoula Art Museum: Alison Reintjes, “DoubleColumn,” through July 27, reception 5-9 p.m. May 2; Chris Autio, “Hands On,” May 16-July 27; Karen Goulet, “Debwe,” through June 1; “Under Pressure: Contemporary Prints from the Collections of Jordan

D. Schnitzer and his Family Foundation,” through June 1; Patricia Thornton, “Misfits, Monsters and Pretty Things,” through June 15; Jill Brody, “Hidden in Plain Sight,” through May 11; Sentinel High School Exhibition closes June 22; Melanie Yazzie and Clark Barker, “Blessingway: Prints by Melanie Yazzie,” June 6-Sept. 8, reception 5-8 p.m. June 6; Bill Ohrmann, “Tainted Revelations,” June 6-Oct. 12, reception 5-8 p.m. June 19; Edgar Paxson murals, June 13-Sept. 7, reception noon-3 p.m. June 25; and “Crossing the River: Hmong Story Cloths,” June 24-Oct. 26; 406-728-0447



“Comanche Village, Women Dressing Robes & Drying Meat” (1834-35) by George Catlin is part of the Smithsonian Collection chronicling the lifeways of the Plains Indians showing May 31-Sept. 14 at the CM Russell Museum in Great Falls.

Montana Art and Framing: “Atelier II,” through May, reception 5-9 p.m. May 2; 406-541-7100

Montana Museum of Art and Culture: “This Is Not a Silent Movie: Four Contemporary Alaska Native Artists,” through July 5, reception 5-7 p.m. May 1; 406-243-2019

Montana Natural History Center: Stephanie J. Frostad, June 6-July 31, reception 4-6 p.m. June 6; 406-327-0405

Monte Dolack Gallery: “Altered State,” through May, reception 5-8 p.m. May 2; 406-549-3248

UM Gallery of Visual Arts: Reception: BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition, through May 16, reception 5-7 p.m. May 1; 406-243-2813

University Center Gallery: BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition, through May 16, reception 4-6 p.m. May 1 and 2-3:30 p.m. May 16; Exhibition of Art and Expression of Wildland Fires, May 19-23; 406-243-5564 or 406-243-5082

Pablo

People’s Center: Allard Photo Collection, through October; 406-675-0160

Plains

Clark Fork Valley Hospital Lobby: “Art on the Walls” Spring Show, through June 24; 406-826-0112

Polson

Sandpiper Art and Gift Gallery: “Under the Big Sky,” May 27-July 4, reception 5-7 p.m. May 30; “Kids and Native Culture,” May 13-23, reception 5-7 p.m. May 16; “Cameras and Color,” through May 9; 406-883-5956

Red Lodge

Depot Gallery: Bob Tompkins and the Purple Sage Gallery Artists, through May, reception 3-5 p.m. May 10; Larry Blackwood, “Opus Corvus,” May 1-June 15; Pat Kuper and Jim Mossman, through June, reception 3-5 p.m. June 7; 406-446-1370

Red Lodge Clay Center: Stacy Snyder, Artists-Invite-Artists Summer Kick-off Exhibition, May 2-30, reception 5-7 p.m. May 2; Brenda Lichman and Ted Adler, June 6-27, reception 5-7 p.m. June 6; featured artist Robert Briscoe, June 6-27; 406-446-3993

Ronan

The Red Poppy: Juanita Small Salmon, through May 23; Olivia Olsen, “Masked Emotions,” June 8-Aug. 22, reception 1-4 p.m. June 8; 406-676-3010

Sidney

MonDak Heritage Center: Custer County Traveling Art Show, May 7-31; “Montana by Foods: A Taste of the Past,” June 3-Aug. 16; 406-433-3500

Virginia City

The Dancing Buffalo in The Depot: Michael and Meagan Blessing, through September, reception 6-8 p.m. June 13; 406-843-5933

Whitefish

Purple Pomegranate: John Ashley, through May, reception 6-9 p.m. May 1; and Kris Kramer, June 1-30, reception 6-9 p.m. June 5; 406-862-7227

Stumptown Art Studio: Spring Show, through June 2, reception 6-9 p.m. May 1; and Julie Engler, “Fish On,” June 5-July 1, reception 6-9 p.m. June 5; 406-862-5929

Walking Man Frame Shop and Gallery: 10-Year Celebration Invite, June 5-30, reception 6-9 p.m. June 5; 406-863-2787

ABOUT VISUAL ARTISTS

Alison Reintjes: DoubleColumn

Through July 27 at the Missoula Art Museum, with a reception and artist talk 5-9 p.m. May 2

Artist website: www.alisonreintjes.com

In DoubleColumn, Missoula artist Alison Reintjes departed from her familiar ceramic medium, and created a large-scale, hanging, site-specific installation out of powder-coated aluminum.

"For the exhibition, I have limited myself to a vocabulary of three simple polygons – an equilateral triangle, a square and a regular hexagon. These three shapes have angles, which can be combined to add up to 360 degrees, forming a continuous spatial field.

"To experience the joy of the color, the viewer is invited to look through the sculpture instead of at it, seeing the suggested volume created by each shape."

The end result – "two stacks of interlocking globes that shift from subtle whites and creams into vibrant yellows, finally concluding in somber ochre" – exude a dominant presence in the museum.

Reintjes also has a work in the front lobby gallery that is rooted in the same sensibility and aesthetic, but executed in ceramic. In part, it's "a two-dimensional blueprint for the larger three-dimensional work."

Reintjes moved to Montana in 2001 for a residency at the Archie Bray Foundation. She has studied at Kent State University, the Canberra School of Art in Australia, and Northern Michigan University and attended artist residencies in New York, Wyoming, Indiana, and Missoula. Her lengthy exhibition



DoubleColumn by Alison Reintjes
(Photo by Logan Castor Parson)

record includes shows at the Oregon College of Arts and Crafts in Portland, AKAR Gallery in Iowa City, Museu de Ceramica de l'Alcora in Spain, and Lill Street Art Center in Chicago, among others.

The artist says the intent of her work at MAM "is to envelope the viewer in an experience that gradually unfolds over a large area. Pattern is created and repeated to affect a feeling that is simultaneously stimulating and peaceful."

Featured Artist: Ed Totten

Through June 18 at Two Rivers Gallery in Big Timber as part of "Savoring Spring Fine Art Show"

Artist website: www.edtottenfineart.com

Montana native Ed Totten is an internationally known artist who lives in Ennis. His breadth of work spans many decades and different media, including oil painting and intricate carvings. He is also gaining recognition for blending oil painting with wood carving in a single work of art.

Totten is inspired by the beauty, history and lifestyle of the Rocky Mountain West. He grew up hunting and fishing in the rugged Montana backcountry, and those pursuits continue to fuel his art.

Among his accomplishments: the National Wildlife Federation commissioned him to paint two endangered fish species, the Montana Grayling and the Snake River Sockeye salmon; and one of his trout paintings was selected as the Pennsylvania State stamp in 1991.



Red-Tailed Hawk by Ed Totten

of North America."

Beyond his fish paintings, Totten is also known for realistic land and sea scapes, Native American portraits and scenes, and lifelike wildlife carvings, as well as relief storyboards and totem carvings. He created a bronze casting of a carved canvasback duck for the International Wild Waterfowl Association to give as its annual award for the preservation of rare and endangered waterfowl.

An ardent conservationist, Totten views his work as a way to share the awe-inspiring beauty of the natural world, and hopefully inspire others to help protect and preserve it.

Julie Engler: "Fish On"

June 5-July 2 at Stumptown Art Studio in Whitefish, with a reception 6-9 p.m. June 5

Artist website: www.mudslingerstudios.com

Columbia Falls artist Julie Engler covers a wall at Stumptown Art Studio in June with her "Montana pocket fish." According to the artist, the hand-built stoneware trout and salmon each has a "secret pocket on the back, for flowers or for hiding a key." The exhibit also includes her hand-built ceramic "Snow Urchins."

Long before earning her MFA from The University of Montana, Engler's art education began. Her dad was a professional musician and solely responsible for all aspects of his business: setting up stands, booking gigs, hiring musicians, bookkeeping, marketing and playing the piano. Nearly every night, when other fathers were coming home from work, her dad was leaving to "play" at work. Engler, too, has constantly faced the work/play dichotomy.

Her work in clay began in high school where she produced award-winning pieces. In graduate school, she won honorable mention in a show judged by Lela Autio and her work is in The University of Montana's permanent collection.

She won two design competitions and a Best of Show Award for a handmade book with collographs and poetry. But Engler says one of her most valued prizes, the Gold Star Award, was bestowed by Kalispell students when she taught English there.

These days, she works at Mudslinger Studios in Columbia Falls, where she creates her pocket fish, and voluminous pots of very thin coils, reminiscent of a cave swift's nest, a mud-dauber's work or the layers of sediment on a riverbed.

Currently, her work is shown at Hunter and Company Interior Design in Whitefish, Beckman's in Kalispell, and shops in Augusta, Bigfork and Chinook, as well as summer farmers' markets in Whitefish and West Glacier.



Blue Trout by Julie Engler

National Trout Unlimited named him Artist of the Year three times in the 1990s and he was selected by the Bradford Exchange as featured artist for an eight-piece, limited-edition collector plate series in 1994, titled "Fresh Water Game Fish



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Send your submissions for About Visual Arts

With About Visual Arts, *State of the Arts* continues to profile living Montana artists (no students, please), whose work is the focus of a current exhibit (on display during some portion of the two months covered by the current issue of *State of the Arts*).

Submissions must include:

- A digital image of the artist's work, with title of the piece (at least 200 dpi);
- A brief bio and description of the artist's work;
- Dates and title of exhibit; and
- The gallery or museum name, town and phone number.

MAC will select submissions that reflect a cross-section of gender, geography, styles and ethnicity, and are from a mix of public and private galleries and museums.

Deadline for submissions for the July/August issue is June 2. Please send submissions to writ-eus@livelytimes.com with About Visual Arts in the subject line.

Deadline nears for participation in MAP program

Artists across Montana continue to benefit from the Montana Arts Council's Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP), which has extended its stretch to nearly 300 artists from western Montana across the mountains and east to Miles City. Although 11 MAP groups have already begun their workshops, applications are currently being accepted for either eastern or western Cascade County, with a deadline of May 1, and the Hi-Line cohort, with a deadline of May 7.

The MAP workshops offer an opportunity for visual artists working in any medium to learn about building a sustainable business in art. Interested artists are encouraged to fill out an application (available online at www.art.mt.gov) to be considered for inclusion in the MAP program.

Currently in its fifth year, MAP has accrued an ever-increasing list of successes. Each year, groups of artists across Montana form to study the business of art under the leadership of a certified MAP coach. In 2014, artists in 14 groups across the state will develop their business skills while strengthening their networks.



A study of MAP artists from its first two years found that most individuals grew their business by at least 150 percent.

MAP is specifically for visual artists, which includes individuals working in all media, from oil paintings to glass, from leather to textiles and fibers, and from metal to photography. Artists need to demonstrate their ongoing commitment to creating in their media and have some computer skills. The size of each group is kept small to insure that artists receive the full benefits of this learning opportunity.

Participants in a MAP cohort commit to 8-10 months of instruction and workshops that help them create 35 tools for their business toolbox and then move forward to Market-Ready Certification. These tools include, for

example, creating marketing materials, setting pricing, developing displays for shows, and building a business plan. There are also mentorship and internship opportunities.

In addition to the instruction, MAP participants have participated in market-expansion opportunities like the 2013 Artist Gathering in Hamilton, the 2013 Tour of Excellence, which took artists to the Western Design Conference in Jackson, WY, and the 2014 Made in Montana Show in Helena.

The Eastern Cascade County MAP group is led by MAP Coach Linda Short of Great Falls, 406-453-4334 or lindajshort@gmail.com; and the Western Cascade County MAP group is led by MAP Coach Pam Houston of Ulm, 406-868-5810 or houstonfineart@gmail.com. Marlena McAlpine of Sunburst, 406-937-5400 or northcountryphoto@yahoo.com, leads the Hi-Line group.

For more information, interested artists should call or email Cindy Kittredge, MAC Folk Arts and Market Development Specialist, 406-468-4078 or ckittredge@mt.gov.



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SOCIAL MEDIA & THE ARTS

How three organizations navigate the virtual community

By Kristi Niemeyer

Facebook, Twitter, Google+, YouTube, Pinterest, Flickr and Instagram: Social media, in all its dazzling and bewildering complexity, dominates the digital landscape.

To get a handle on how arts organizations in Montana are using these platforms to keep patrons engaged and reach new audiences, we talked to representatives of three of the state's innovators: Jodi Grant, director of marketing and corporate relations at the Alberta Bair Theater in Billings; Luke Walrath, co-founder of Alpine Theatre Project in Whitefish; and Rachel Hicks, director of programs and communications at the Archie Bray Foundation in Helena.

Here are excerpts from our Q&A. For an interactive conversation, tune in to the webinar, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 20 (see details on page 1).

Alberta Bair Theater

The Alberta Bair posted some remarkable results from electronic networking last year, and attributes a 14.4% increase in ticket sales overall and an 87% increase in online ticket sales to more efficient use of its website, Facebook, Twitter and email blasts.

The past two years have yielded a ten-fold increase in people purchasing tickets from the states of Idaho, Washington and Colorado. For the a Kris Kristoferson performance last fall, a woman flew from Seattle to Billings with her sister and mother, a life-long fan of the country star. The ABT attributes these sales to the ABT's enhanced website and customers' ability to buy tickets real time on the internet.

Thanks to a technology upgrade, residents in the region now have access to live performing arts information, including upcoming performances, arts education, outreach, donor information, and links to artists and art educators throughout the world.

Jody Grant was hired last September and has since worked to increase the Alberta Bair's presence and consistency with social media, which she describes as "a vehicle for communication and engagement." She notes that the social media platforms Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram and LinkedIn comprise "one tool in a toolbox that also includes email blasts, the website and traditional media."

KN: Which sites are most useful to you and why?

JG: Facebook. It's the most commonly used site of our patrons so it has the widest reach. It's a productive use of my time for mass communication to our patrons, artists and beyond.

And Twitter: What it lacks in numbers in our market, it makes up for in engagement, since Twitter users tend to be more engaged. The Oak Ridge Boys and Straight No Chaser are two groups with whom I was able to piggyback their posts and reach their fan bases.

KN: What are some of the challenges you've faced in creating a robust social media presence?

JG: Time: I target my messages for each platform rather than use a site like Hubspot to shotgun one message. The audiences of each site have different expectations of interaction.

Technology: I also personally bought a new camera, a Canon D70, that allows me to download its pictures to my iPhone and then I directly upload to social media during the event, prior to intermission, to engage people and artists in "real time."

I have yet to figure out how to get an audience on Instagram. Most of our



The Alberta Bair's Facebook page: Site most commonly used by patrons of all ages.

shows don't allow photographs or videos during a performance. I need to engage the selfie phenomena and have those posted/tagged.

KN: I notice ABT recently received a Constant Contact All Star Award for reaching customers and engaging with them. Please tell us how you use Constant Contact to stay in touch with patrons.

JG: Since I began here, I began a consistent outreach each month (two weeks prior to the beginning of the next month), based on responses I got from people who took the time to open them. After each monthly send,

I weed out bounced emails and keep our list clean. I reply the same day to anyone who replies to an email.

I use Photoshop to create a very graphic message with very little text. About once a month I send to specific lists based on upcoming events (i.e. Broadway, country, etc.), and I have made a very easy link on the ABT website to allow visitors to sign up for our emails.

I don't over-send emails; one or two a month is plenty, unless we're communicating a cancellation or vital piece of information (i.e. when Kenny Rogers rescheduled, that announcement was its own email).

KN: Your Facebook page has nearly 3,000 Likes. How often do you post?

JG: At least two or three times a week, if not more often.

It depends on what the Facebook climate is like – what there is to share among people we follow, what's newsworthy and how many upcoming shows we have.

KN: how much time does the ABT invest in social media?

JG: At least an hour a day on average, broken into much smaller chunks of time throughout the day. I spend at least five minutes combined for all platforms every hour or so throughout the day to check for breaking news and items of interest. Email updates let me know about certain traffic. And I spend about 10 minutes at each event to upload photos.

Alpine Theatre Project: How interesting would it be if what you were watching on stage was only one part of the story? That other parts were being played out online? It's a whole new medium.

KN: What guides your decisions about what to post?

JG: Does a post support the ABT mission: bringing the excitement of the performing arts to Big Sky Country? Does it inform about an artist who was, or will be at our venue? Is it positive? Does it add value to discussions regarding performing arts entertainment, funding, the climate of our industry? Does it support partners in our community? Does it make me smile?

Alpine Theatre Project, Whitefish

The Whitefish-based theatre company has seen significant success in using social media networks like Facebook, Twitter, Google+, and YouTube to engage its constituents on a more immediate level. Its accomplishments are lauded in both artistic and tourism-based circles.

Luke Walrath, co-founder and director of marketing and development, is a self-described geek, who believes social media offers performing arts companies "so many more tools for storytelling. We'd be foolish to ignore that."

KN: First of all, how do you keep up?

LW: I'm on these sites constantly, reading different posts from other artists, arts companies, critics, and news outlets ...

I use two main apps for this besides actually going on Facebook, Twitter and G+.

(1) Feedly. It's a news aggregator that pulls articles of interest to me ... and gives me stuff that might be worth passing on to our followers. It also keeps me up to date on latest trends and new arts stuff.

(2) Buffer. This program allows me to post to different social media accounts simultaneously and also schedule the posts. I've found it to be better for us than other programs like Hootsuite. And it's free. Woo hoo!

KN: Which sites are most useful to you and why?

LW: I think Google+ is actually the best platform, but it doesn't have the critical mass that both FB and Twitter have.

They're all useful in different ways. We look to FB if we want people to comment or interact. Twitter is clean for just getting content out there. G+ is an interesting mix of both, and helps improve our search-result ranking within Google, though we get almost no interaction on it.

Pinterest is not something we use other than for collaboration with designers. Instagram is better for sharing photo content since it encourages sharing within its own network and across FB and Twitter.

Continued on next page

Researcher: "Facebook is an anomaly"

In an interview titled "The era of Facebook is an anomaly," posted March 13 at www.theverge.com, researcher danah boyd discusses teens, identity, and the future of digital communication. Her new book, *It's Complicated*, is the sum of a decade of research and over 150 interviews with teens.

Boyd "is one of the world's sharpest authorities on how teens interact with technology, and for many, her word has become canon for understanding why teens do what they do," writes reporter Ellis Hamburger.

"Boyd's day job is at Microsoft Research, where she helps make sure Microsoft doesn't miss the beat on privacy and social media trends. She argues that many of the challenges Microsoft faces aren't about technology, but are instead about understanding the social dynamics of how people interact today versus when Microsoft was founded.

"Because to boyd, social media isn't new. It's just the latest scapegoat for America's obsession with overprotection."

Read the interview at theverge.com.

Social media (from previous page)

KN: You mention that you're using social networks to facilitate communication between artists – for example, Pinterest to gather images for costume and scene designs. Can you share more examples?

LW: This is perhaps the most interesting thing about social media. These networks are rapidly replacing the traditional forms of communication.

We have actors contacting us through Facebook about auditions. We are able to look on Facebook and YouTube at photos and videos of work by people we are considering hiring. Since the professional theatre community is small, we actually can see who different artists have worked with, and see if we have any common connections.

When Betsi (Morrison, Luke's wife and company co-founder) began working on our 2012 production of "Little Shop of Horrors," our costume designer was in Texas. They used Pinterest to gather images for design inspiration. We also post videos to a private channel of rehearsal with our students so they can look at certain things at their leisure.

KN: Are there surprising ways that social media has sparked conversation or fresh ideas among artists?

LW: I'm becoming more interested in using social media not for marketing, but for enhancing the stories we tell on stage. The Royal Shakespeare Company is really doing some amazing things with this. When they produced "Romeo and Juliet" a few years ago, they reenacted the entire story in real time on Twitter ... How interesting would it be if what you were watching on stage was only one part of the story? That other parts were being played out online? It's a whole new medium.

KN: I notice that you post a lively mixture of observations, local color and ATP-specific info on FB. What guides your content?

LW: I sat in on a webinar held by Guy Kawasaki, who has a massive social media presence. He advocated that companies need to earn the right to post about themselves, and that they do this by sharing other information, not about themselves, that their audience finds interesting. We are trying to adopt that strategy.

I just ask myself, "If I saw this on my feed, would I click it? Is it interesting?" In following this, we're actually finding our voice, and it's permeating into other marketing materials.

KN: Which posts seem to generate the most response?

LW: Good responses have come from all sorts of posts. We post not just about ATP, but about things that we find creative, and a lot about our community and Montana. It's a big part of who we are, and if we are going to market our arts companies to the nation at large, our location in Montana is a HUGE selling point. And people are interested in it.

I will say that video always does better than anything else.

KN: How does Twitter add to the mix?

LW: I'm still trying to figure out what to do with it ... It seems best right now for just getting things out there – announcements of any kind. I'm also finding that humor works way better.

KN: ATP uses lots of video, primarily on YouTube and Google +. How are you taking the raw footage, and how much editing is involved?

LW: I really want to do more live streaming. I think it's a great way to reach people. I also would love to do Google Hangouts (video conferences) with theatre artists and use them as online salons. That kind of stuff.

We shoot video mainly on Betsi's DSLR camera with a mounted Rode DLSR microphone. I then edit it on either iMovie or Final Cut Pro. We'll also take supplemental video with our phones. It's quick and easy. Then I'll upload it to YouTube and share it accordingly.

KN: Any idea who engages the most with ATP on social media sites? Has it enhanced your ability to reach new audiences?

LW: This one's tough. On Facebook, it's across the board – everything from high school students to octogenarians.

Twitter has been primarily 20s-30s. Mainly female. It has helped us reach new audiences only by spreading the word about who we are. But that doesn't necessarily translate into higher ticket sales. I still think it comes down to putting on shows and programs that are worth watching. Live. The greatest social media presence in the world won't help with that if your programming is stale and uninteresting.

Archie Bray Foundation, Helena

The Archie Bray has an impressive Facebook presence, with more than 6,000 likes. In 2012, the ceramic arts foundation had increased its following with more than 1,162 likes, and more than 7 million posts had been made by people sharing the Bray with friends. Communications director Rachel Hicks explains that timing and content are crucial.

KN: When did the Bray begin to get serious about social media?

RH: We joined Facebook in early 2009, which was our first step in beginning to use social media. It came about because of a big push from a board member who had been using it to help promote herself.

We have also poked around in other realms of social media with Twitter, Flickr, Pinterest, YouTube, a blog and Instagram. Though Facebook has been our main social media outlet, Instagram has become more important in just the last few months.

Archie Bray Foundation: It's important to find a balance between getting out information that we want heard, and putting out information that people want to hear. Often this involves being creative about making those two things into one.

KN: What are some of the challenges you've faced in creating a robust social media presence?

RH: One of the biggest challenges is learning to let go of control of what people are going to say and see about the organization. Another challenge is figuring out what your "followers/friends" want to hear from you and creating content that is relevant to them.

KN: You say that through experimentation, you've learned what content your audience is most interested in. What types of content do FB followers most respond to?

RH: When we first began I wasn't sure what people wanted to hear about from the Archie Bray and how much they already knew. I spent a lot of time just "listening" to what other organizations and individuals were posting.

I also started to post different content (artwork images, education info, donation requests and so on) to see what people responded to. I also watched to see when people would respond and what time of day was most successful for these things. It was time intensive but I began to see patterns of what people liked and commented on or shared.

For the Bray, I noticed that people strongly responded to artwork at all stages of production. By comparing that to the demographics that Facebook supplies I concluded that a lot of people who were interested in following the Bray were probably artists themselves and looking for inspiration ...

KN: How important is timing?

RH: The time of day is important to maximize people seeing the post. All the social media applications have different algorithms and they are always changing, but that's what controls your post getting onto people's feeds.

I noticed that if I posted in the late afternoon or early evening, there were more people seeing the post, and thus liking it and keeping it going on the news feed. If I posted too early in the morning, often the post would disappear before lunch.



The Archie Bray's Instagram page: "Another great experiment in watching and learning how long our images last on feeds and what is good content and timing."

However, if the topic we were posting about is very relevant to what is happening within a specific community it may stay around longer. For example, if a well-known artist is given an award or passes away, that information seems to be reposted and shared more often.

We have just recently started to use Instagram a lot more and this has been another great experiment in watching and learning how long our images last on feeds and what is good content and timing. Many of our resident artists are big users of Instagram so it's fun to tie into what they are doing as well.

KN: Do you have a staff person dedicated to maintaining your social media presence, or is it a more diffused role at the Bray, where posts come from several different artists or staff members?

RH: At first we had the idea that multiple people would be posting for the Bray but quickly realized that it wasn't the best thing for us. We have multiple people who are administrators on our accounts. While I am in charge of the content that goes out through social media, I do seek the input of others.

Most recently our gallery director, Emily Free Wilson, has gotten excited about posting on Instagram. We set up a schedule and talked about what we wanted to post when, and she has been having a great time doing it.

The other side of the equation for us is the resident artists. They are very active on social media. There are many times that I share photos they have posted or ask them to send them to me so I can post them on the Archie Bray account. I often share things on their pages as well or ask them to "like" something I post to keep it alive on the stream.

KN: Are there other social media outlets that are part of the mix, or that you're developing?

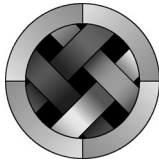
RH: As I mentioned before, we have been using Instagram a lot more lately which is great for our art community. We are part of a very visual community and Instagram is just that, a place to post great images and snippets into what is happening at the Bray.

YouTube has become the second largest search engine and I would like to start using it more.

KN: What guides your choices about how best to interact with your audience and supporters?

RH: The community itself. I strongly recommend getting to know your audience, and creating places where you can get feedback. Play around to find out what they like and do not like or respond to.

It's important to find a balance between getting out information that we want heard, and putting out information that people want to hear. Often this involves being creative about making those two things into one.



Five hot trends

"More than 70% of online adults are Facebook users, but the popular social network is facing some slivers of competition as new digital destinations entice users. In 2013 we saw the rise of visual social media, with services such as Instagram and Pinterest reeling in fans with photos-first agendas," reports Amber Mac, a best-selling author, TV host, speaker, and strategist in a story titled "Five of the Best and Worst Social Networking Trends for 2014," posted at fastcompany.com.

Her list of emerging trends includes:

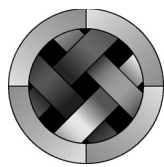
1. Disappearing Media: "When their parents and grandparents jump on board of one social media site (like Facebook), teens scurry off to carve out new online territory. Most recently, Snapchat is driving the trend."

2. Better Blogging: "Finally, blogging is beautiful." She suggests a visit to the new blog-publishing platform Medium, billed by its founder, Ev Williams as "the cleanest, most streamlined writing interface on the web."

3. Private Networks: She mentions Lulu, a women-only app (iOS/Android).

4. Self-Centered Social: "Just when you thought social media couldn't get more egotistical," writes Mac, "Shots of Me makes it easy to share selfies."

5. Airbnb for Everything: NeighborGoods, DogVacay, and Airbnb "all drive home this fact: social networks are built for sharing."



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Policy brief explains why the arts are an essential investment

The National Assembly of State Arts Agencies has updated and expanded its popular policy brief, *Why Should Government Support the Arts?* This resource answers frequently asked questions about public funding for the arts and culture.

In addition to updated research on economic, educational, civic and health benefits, the brief includes new sections dispelling the myth that the arts are a partisan issue and underscoring the importance of public arts support in rural communities.

A refreshed Research Supplement contains handy links to authoritative data.

Designed for public arts leaders and advocates, the new and expanded edition describes why the arts are an essential public investment. This document invites conversation and reflection about the value of the arts to American communities. It also provides resource material and research citations that any state can use to support its case for the arts.

The brief is available at www.nasaa.org.

PUBLIC VALUE PARTNERSHIPS

The Three Rs at work

Public Value Partnerships grants between Montana nonprofit arts organizations and the Montana Arts Council champion the fact that the arts are of benefit to all the citizens of Montana and are worthy of state and federal investment.

Public Value Partnerships utilize three tools we call “The Three Rs” to expand the public value of the work being done by Montana’s non-profit arts organizations:

- Building relationships;
- Creating greater relevance and meaning; and
- Establishing return on investment (measured both as economic vitality and impact on people’s lives).

MAC believes that using “The Three Rs” strengthens participation, understanding and support from audiences, donors and funders. We’d like to share some of the best examples of these stories with you from 2013:

Building Relationships

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, Bozeman: Because Montana MSIP’s mission is to make professional productions of Shakespeare and other classics available in communities with a focus on those that are rural and underserved, strong and personal relationships are natural byproducts of the tour. This occurs when the MSIP office staff makes direct phone calls to tour coordinators before and after the company’s visit to their town, but it is most effective when the actors build relationships with the community members before and after each performance.

The MSIP tour actors visit 60 communities over the course of the summer tour. With the exception of some of the larger communities (Missoula, Billings, etc.), community members often provide potluck lunches and dinners for the actors. The 10 actors who hail from all over the United States get to share a meal and learn about individual community members and the town itself in nearly every community.

One third of the communities that bring Shakespeare in the Parks to their town also put the actors up in local families’ homes. Oftentimes this creates relationships that become lifelong friendships.

Susan Wolfe, the tour coordinator from Forsyth, started off as a tour host for a number of actors in 2001. At that time, her son was 6 years old and fascinated by the swordfights in “Henry IV, Part II.” When the actors left town, they presented her son with one of the

swords that was no longer being used in the performance as a thank-you gift.

Now, 11 years later, these same actors keep in touch with Ms. Wolfe and her family. She has since become the art teacher at Lame Deer middle and high schools, and has maintained a strong bond with Shakespeare in the Parks, bringing both its fall and spring educational outreach tours to Lame Deer schools.

Now when she travels, and finds herself in the hometown of one of these actors, she and her now-teenage son are invited to dinner at their homes. This is just one example of the strong relationships that are forged between the actors and community members because of Shakespeare in the Parks.

Creating Relevance

Albert Bair Theater, Billings: The Alberta Bair Theater is entering its second year of partnering with health and fitness organizations in Billings to promote physical fitness among area youth in a program called Project Hip-Hop. Activities include early morning

dance workouts with more than 300 fifth and sixth graders in the gymnasiums of five schools in Billings and Laurel, a residency at each of the schools on urban dance by an acclaimed dancer/teaching artist, and two school matinees for grades 4-12 at ABT.

Because Project Hip Hop is targeting Title I schools, ABT is helping to improve the education opportunities of low-income individuals. Studies have shown that regular physical activity among adolescents improves students’ academic performance, including academic achievement and grades, academic behavior such as time on task, and factors that influence academic achievement, such as concentration and attentiveness in the classroom.

Results from Project Hip-Hop’s first year showed an increase in daily attendance by those students participating in the early morning hip-hop sessions. The project also reached underserved elementary school students in Yellowstone County who have had little exposure to the concept of dance as exercise, and even less exposure to urban-themed music and dance, which contributes to the enhancement of cultural and artistic life of the community.

These elements, combined in a regular workout regime, set the stage for students to create, imagine and explore ways in which they can move their bodies, get in shape, and appreciate different types of dance and music.

Individual School Sponsorships also enrich the lives of area children. Due largely in part to ABT Board Member Leslie Pittman, more than 2,000 at-risk school students in Yellowstone County were able to attend an ABT school matinee at no cost during the 2012-13 school year. Ms. Pittman worked tirelessly to secure \$10,000 to fund the program. Her goal for 2013-14 is to ensure that every student in the county attends one or more ABT school matinee performances.



Stumptown Art Studio: Student Ben Holman with his Klimt creation.

(Photo by Kristie Caratelli)

Return on Investment – Impact on People’s Lives

Stumptown Art Studio, Whitefish: Stumptown Art Studio’s Art from the Heart program was developed with the goal of reaching out to the under-served members of our community. For several years we have worked with a gentleman named Ben Holman, now 33.

Here is a letter from Ben’s mother, Carla: “Ben had a rare seizure disorder as an infant that resulted in autism. He received special education throughout his school years; since leaving school, he has been able to work at a part-time job in the community.

“Participating in art classes at Stumptown

Art Studio for the past several years has enriched Ben’s life by providing structured activities that require planning and completion, giving him the mental exercise that goes with that. Ben’s communication is often limited to certain specific subjects that inter-

est him and that subject matter may or may not lend itself to conversations with others. His art experiences have given him a new venue for conversation that other people can often relate to.

“He enjoys showing his artwork and that has encouraged him to converse with friends and new acquaintances. (A couple of years ago, without his family’s knowledge, Ben packed several pieces of art in his suitcase for a weekend trip, to show family friends in Missoula.)

“Being part of art walks and shows through SAS has given Ben community integration because he’s a disabled person participating in an activity that a non-disabled person might participate in. Ben’s art has given him chances to try new things; it has provided something to anticipate and look forward to; he seems proud of his accomplishments with art; and it genuinely makes him happy.”

Each month we send an art instructor equipped with a variety of supplies to a fully accessible group home in nearby Kalispell. Eight adults with disabilities live in this home. This year we entered a variety of their artwork in the Flathead County Fair. Most earned blue ribbons, and all were viewed by thousands of residents.

At her most recent visit to the home, our art instructor was greeted with hugs and smiles by her students, who proudly wore their ribbons and were eager to begin their next art project. These are the stories that reflect the impact of the arts on people’s lives.



Alberta Bair Theater: Students arrive for a student matinee performance.



Montana Shakespeare in the Parks: Tour manager Steve Peebles opens up the show in Heron.

Arts Organizations: Understanding DUNS numbers

By Carleen Layne, MAC Accountant

First, an explanation: the Data Universal Number System, or DUNS, is a system the federal government has adopted to track how federal grant money is allocated. It’s a unique nine-character number that identifies your organization.

I just helped a Montana arts organization with a DUNS number question. It turns out they had three separate numbers. This can easily happen when you have staff turnover and/or multiple volunteers handling grant-writing duties.

It is each organization’s responsibility to check this information periodically and make sure the information that Dun and Bradstreet has for you is accurate.

If you have a DUNS number, in order to verify your information, go to www.dnb.com/get-a-duns-number.html. At the top

of the page there is an 800 number you can call and a chat-now button you can click to have a live chat with a D&B consultant. Or you can click on the middle link, “Have a DUNS number,” type in the name of your organization and get a listing of organizations with your name – hopefully there is only one. If there is, you can click on the check box in front of that name and review the information.

If not, a Resolve Duplicate Listing Option comes up and you can follow those directions and contact D&B by phone or through email. You may need to register for D&B’s iUpdate in order to access this capability.

If you don’t have a DUNS number, visit www.whitehouse.gov and search for “Obtaining a DUNS Number.”

LAW AND THE ART WORLD

Beware of referring to artwork as an investment

By Bill Frazier ©2013

In the last issue of *State of the Arts*, I commented on the practice of some less informed galleries and artists of suggesting that certain works of art were of investment quality in their sales pitches to customers. Since then, I have received two email solicitations from galleries advising me to buy “investment” quality paintings from two artists I have never heard of. They were nice paintings, certainly, but not investment quality.

To the galleries who are saying this, or thinking of saying this, beware of liabilities you may be bringing upon yourselves. And to potential buyers, I simply say beware of such sales solicitations.

Artists, never try to promote your artwork by stating that it is of investment quality. To those buyers who know better, you are destroying your credibility.

The concept of investment carries certain legal requirements and regulations and is not a term to be used casually. I have heard many artists referring to their buyers as “investors.” This is somewhat affected, if not questionable, but probably okay for the unsophisticated. Just do not refer to the artwork as an investment.

Scams continue to proliferate

Scams continue to proliferate on the internet. There are new solicitations arriving weekly, always offering something for nothing, sounding too good to be true, if not downright silly; but enough people take the bait to keep them coming to all of us. Again, beware.

Some come from individuals in foreign countries, purported foreign governments and deposed dictators or their widows and orphans, and yet others from reputed government agencies. These are attempts not only to get into your bank accounts, but also to get into your computer. Once they are in your computer, they often have the ability to steal your identity as well as move through emails and attachments to your friends and business associates.

If you are suspicious of an email such as these, do not open any attachments. Many emails come from what is supposed to be the IRS, but remember that the IRS does not use email for correspondence, only the U.S. mail.

All of these types of solicitations may look authentic, but they are not. If you are tempted by them, or want to respond, think twice.

Insurance for artwork

A continuing issue of concern is the matter of adequate insurance coverage for an artist’s artwork, both while in transit and while on display for sale or exhibit in a gallery. The artist must be satisfied that his work is insured fully while it is in the possession of a gallery.

Do not sign a contract, memo or letter of understanding or other document wherein the artist agrees to waive this insurance coverage. Most galleries are properly covered for loss or damage to consigned artwork, but others are not. It is up to the artist to investigate this status.

There have been situations where the artist’s work was not insured, or adequately insured, and it was damaged, stolen, lost or destroyed. There was no insurance coverage and the gallery owner did not have the financial ability to reimburse the artist for the damages.

Lack of insurance is often a problem when artists display their work in restaurants or coffee shops and then there is either smoke or fire damage. Proper insurance should insure against what is often called “all perils.” This means that while in the possession of a gallery, art show, auction or other venue, the work is insured against theft, fire or smoke damage, loss, mysterious disappearance, and sometimes water damage.

It is the responsibility of the artist to make certain that this insurance coverage exists. If you go forward without the insurance, it is then at your own peril.

The artist may want to ask to see the insurance coverage or be listed as a “named insured” depending on the value of the artwork. An alternative is for the artist to provide his own insurance coverage, but that is sometimes difficult.

Similarly, both artists and galleries need to be careful in shipping work to see that it is adequately insured. Shippers have disclaimers and defaults to minimum coverage, or coverage by weight, so that it is often necessary to buy additional insurance.

Make sure the insurance specifically covers artwork and the replacement value of the artwork.

Avoid potential of smoke damage

On a related note, I normally advise artist clients not to place their work in coffee shops



Bill Frazier

and restaurants for sale. If the restaurant wants to buy the work, fine, because damage is then its problem. However, there is always the threat of smoke, steam and fire damage, especially to items framed under glass.

Most galleries will not accept work if it has been displayed previously in such venues because of the probability of damage and then the threat of lawsuits when the damage is discovered by an unsuspecting buyer.

I have mentioned the issue of smoke damage several times in previous articles because it is a very real problem. Tragic losses of artwork occur every year from such accidents and from other unintentional and unexpected causes.

Insurance is designed to put us back into our position before the loss as nearly as possible, but can do nothing if we fail to buy it. I know that it can be expensive, but it is a cost of business in our litigious world.

Keep an eye on tax laws

Be sure to watch for changes in tax laws and stay in touch with your accountant. At the moment Congress is preoccupied with health care and immigration issues, so we do not know what is slipping into the tax law to catch us off guard!

Bill Frazier served a lengthy and invaluable tenure as chairman of the Montana Arts Council. He’s in private practice in Big Timber, and can be reached at 406-932-5453 or artlaw@mtintouch.net. MAC thanks *Art of the West* for permission to reprint this series.



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Direct mail fundraising

Is the internet the death knell for direct mail?

“Not even close,” writes Jeff Brooks in “Questions I’m Most Often Asked about Direct Mail Fundraising.”

“Direct mail is a long way from death. It’s still the most effective fundraising medium (after the church offering basket) and it’s many times more effective than email.

“But the way it works is changing. One important change is the way direct mail and the Web are becoming intertwined. Donors are moved by the warmth and personal touch of direct mail, then going online to give. It’s the best of both worlds when they do that: The higher average gifts we get from online donors, combined with the higher frequency and retention we see with direct-mail donors.”

Read the full article at www.guidestar.org.
– *GuideStar*,
January 2014

Tech Talk: Using the Foundation Center

By Mark Ratledge

As I wrote a few issues ago, it takes money to work as an artist or run a nonprofit, and creative financing is a de rigueur skill in a state like Montana. And so most of us, and the organizations we are involved with, have at some point applied for funding by writing grant applications to funding organizations, be they government entities or public and private philanthropic foundations.

Grant writing is a skill itself; you must be able to write concisely about your own work or the mission and goals of your organization, provide clear and accurate financials, navigate online forms, and much more. But one must also be able to locate potential funders and find their deadlines, program details and priorities. This is where the world of technology comes in with the Foundation Center and its online services.

The width and breadth of the Foundation Center and its available resources may surprise you as an artist or organization. The center is a non-profit 501(c)(3) dedicated to being the most comprehensive source of information about philanthropy worldwide. It was established almost 60 years ago and is funded by nearly 550 other foundations.

The center has a service called the Foundation Directory, which provides databases of thousands of foundations and grant makers, the grants they have given, tax documents, lists of board members and trustees, and many philanthropy resources in general.

If you’re applying for funding in any respect, you need to know about these resources. Even if you’re simply doing research on the nonprofit sector – like finding out who funded what and when – the Foundation Center is the only place to go for such information.

For instance, you can search for all the grants that were made to organizations in Montana; all the foundations in New York City that make grants to artists in Montana; all the past grants that went to, say, organizations in Missoula over the last 10 years; all the foundations a particular trustee or company is involved with, and more.

In Montana, there are different ways to do your own searches of grants and grant makers:



Mark Ratledge is an information technology consultant. His website is markratledge.com.

- You can do your own free (but limited search) on the web at the Foundation Directory Online at fdo.foundationcenter.org;

- You can pay for your own full access at that same website;

- Or you can go to one of five libraries around the state and use the Foundation Directory Online for free.

The Foundation Directory Online is available at the Bozeman Public Library, the Flathead

County Library in Kalispell, Montana State University-Billings Library, Montana Tech Library in Butte and the Mansfield Library at The University of Montana in Missoula. The online directory can only be used at those locations; the license for the Foundation Center restricts access to in-house use at each library – there is no remote online access.

Next issue: Part 2 – Using the Foundation Directory



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Learn about art at the Getty website

The website of the J. Paul Getty Trust, www.getty.edu, aims to serve a broad audience of museum-goers, professionals, and members of the general public interested in art, education, conservation, scholarship, and philanthropy. The website features expanded content and streaming media including video clips related to artists, conservation, special exhibitions, and works in the permanent collection. In addition to a library catalogue of 800,000 volumes and other online research tools, the website offers users nearly 54,000 pages related to works of art. Professional reports in conservation and art history are also online at www.getty.edu.

OPPORTUNITIES

Disclaimer: No endorsement is intended or made of any product, service or information either by its inclusion or exclusion from the Opportunities section of the *State of the Arts*. While all attempts are made to ensure the correctness and suitability of information under our control and to correct any errors brought to our attention, no representation or guarantee can be made as to the correctness or suitability of that information or any other linked information presented, referenced or implied. All critical information should be independently verified.

Visual Arts, Crafts and Photography: Call for Entries, State of Montana

The Sandpiper Art Gallery in Polson invites area artists and artisans to apply to be a vendor at the 43rd annual Sandpiper Art Festival, Aug. 9. A non-juried show, “Man and Beast,” is open to all artists and runs September 30-November 7. Visit www.sandpiperartgallery.com or call 406-883-5956.

Fort Benton’s Summer Celebration welcomes art, crafts, food and product vendors to apply for a spot at the 38th annual event celebrating the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage in Montana. Call Diane Jones, 406-270-7021, or visit www.fortbenton.com/sumcel for details. DEADLINE: non-refundable \$50 deposit is due before June 15, 2014.

The Havre Area Chamber of Commerce seeks artists and crafters for the 31st Annual Festival of Arts and Crafts during Havre Festival Days, September 20-21. Contact Shari at 406-265-4383, email chamberdesk@havremt.net or visit www.havremt.com for details. DEADLINE: Aug. 1, 2014.

The Treasure State Flywheelers in Great Falls invites art, crafts and product vendors, and crafts and skills demonstrators to be a part of “Heritage Festival,” a new event celebrating Montana’s heritage at the fairgrounds September 20-21. Contact Joe Garrity at 406-799-8650, email Darrel.Sand@d2sand@3rivers.net, or write Treasure State Flywheelers, Box 144, Sun River, MT 59483.

The Great Falls Business Improvement District (BID) seeks Cascade County artists to design public art on traffic signal boxes. The Traffic Signal Box program is part of an effort to continue beautification of downtown Great Falls. Pick up applications at 13 Fifth Street North or visit www.greatfallsbid.com. DEADLINE: 12:30 p.m. May 30, 2014.

The Colstrip Area Chamber of Commerce seeks vendor applications for the Outdoor Festival (June 22) in Rye Park. Call Olivia Sample at 406-720-0015 or email sparksamples@gmail.com.

The Carle Gallery at the Butte-Silver Bow Public Library in Butte seeks submissions from Montana artists for an LGBTQ juried art exhibit, “Out at the Library,” June 3-28. Artwork should be illustrative of the artist’s experiences as or with members of the LGBTQ community. Contact Nerissa at 406-723-3361 or email ncook@buttepubliclibrary.info for details. DEADLINE: May 17, 2014.

The Helena Public Art Committee invites all age groups to participate in Chalk-Up Helena on July 19 at the Downtown Walking Mall. Pick up entry forms at the City-County Building, Room 445, or visit www.helenapublicarts.com for details.

The City of Missoula Public Art Committee invites artists residing in Missoula County to submit proposals for seven new locations in the Traffic Signal Box Project. The project promotes the talents of local artists and enhances Missoula’s visual landscape. Visit <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/899/Public-Art-Calls> or call 406-544-7359 for details. DEADLINE: May 30, 2014.

The City of Missoula Public Art Committee also invites artists in western Montana to submit a

Want the latest info on opportunities?

Using email, the arts council manages three biweekly information newsletters that provide current and ongoing opportunities. Artists, arts organizations and arts educators each have their own newsletter.

To sign up for any or all of these information tools, email KarenDe Herman at KHerman2@mt.gov or look for the sign-up form on our website and in the newspaper.

design proposal for a public art piece at Pineview Park in Missoula. Contact Linda Richards at 406-370-4590 or email linda.louise.richards@gmail.com. com with the subject line of Pineview Park Art Project for details. Visit <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/899/Public-Art-Calls> for online submission form. DEADLINE: May 22, 2014.

Livingston Depot Center’s Festival of the Arts seeks artists and craftspeople in all media for its 27th annual juried event. The festival runs July 2-4 in the Depot Rotary Park. Call 406-222-2300 or visit www.livingstondepot.org for details. DEADLINE: May 10, 2014.

The Two Rivers Gallery in Big Timber has issued a call for entries of local and regional fine art, in all visual media, for a juried show June 20-July 18. Visit www.tworiversgallery.org or call 406-932-5532 for details.

The Choteau Soroptimist Club seeks artists, crafters and food vendors for the annual Choteau Summer Festival in City Park July 5. Call Sally at 406-466-5564 or email sehalazyh@yahoo.com.

The Bigfork Museum of Art and History seeks participants for “Earth Works,” a wood, leather and metal exhibition. Submit up to 20 jpegs of work via email to bigforkart@hotmail.com; include artist biography, prices and media of each work, plus a \$10 juror’s fee. Call 406-837-6927 or visit www.bigforkmuseum.org. DEADLINE: May 1, 2014.

Stumptown Art Studio in Whitefish announces an open call to artists for the 2014 Whitefish Gallery Nights season for the months of June through September. Works must be available for sale and be on display for one month. Call Charity or Aida at 406-862-5929, email info@stumptownartstudio.org or visit www.stumptownartstudio.org.

Gallatin Art Crossing and The City of Bozeman call for artists for the 2014-15 show and installation of work in downtown Bozeman. Work will be on display for one year and be available for sale. Call 406-579-1256, email tate@gallatinartcrossing.com or visit www.gallatinartcrossing.com for details. DEADLINE: 5 p.m. May 16, 2014.

The Western Art and Gear Show in Lewistown seeks artists and vendors for the Aug. 15-16 show at the Yogo Inn. The show is in conjunction with the 29th annual Montana Cowboy Poetry Gathering and Western Music Rendezvous. The exhibit/booth fee is \$100. Contact Karen Kuhlmann at 406-538-4575 or email kbkuhlmann@midrivers.com for details. EARLY DEADLINE: July 15, 2014.

The Yellowstone Art Museum in Billings seeks applications for the 2014 Summerfair, July 12-13, a major arts and crafts festival now in its 36th year. The museum benefit attracts nearly 10,000 visitors. Artists can complete an application at www.artmuseum.org or call 406-256-6804 ext. 236 with questions. DEADLINE: May 15, 2014.

Art in the Park in Lincoln seeks artists for the second annual event held in conjunction with Lincolnstock. The Aug. 8-9 juried show features all forms of fine arts and crafts. Visit <https://sites.google.com/site/lincolncouncilforthearts/> or call 406-362-4547 for information. DEADLINE: May 15, 2014.

The Montana Watercolor Society announces its 32nd annual juried art exhibition, Watermedia 2014, Oct. 1-31, in Bigfork. Over \$5,000 in cash and merchandise awards will be distributed. Visit www.montanawatercolorsociety.org or email mtws2014media@gmail.com. DEADLINE: June 1, 2014.

The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls announces the return of their Gift Shop. Applications for art to be consigned will be accepted by the first Thursday of each month, and be juried by a committee of at least three people. All

media is welcome with a focus on contemporary and outsider art. Contact Tracy Houck, Executive Director, at tracy@the-Square.org for application materials or call 406-727-8255 for details.

The Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture in Bozeman is accepting applications for solo and group art exhibits in their three galleries. Applications from established and emerging artists of the region will be reviewed throughout the year. Call Ellen Onitz at 406-587-9797 ext. 104 or visit www.theemerson.org.

Visual Arts, Crafts and Photography: Call for Entries, National

C. Emerson Fine Arts, originally a St. Petersburg, FL, based gallery has evolved to a global curatorial project offering art advisory and a web-based collection site. C.E.F.A. seeks artists, most specifically focusing in the Hyperrealist and photo-realist in painting and drawing, for its featured artist for sale online and traveling exhibitions. Email cmersonfineart@gmail.com or visit cemersonfinearts.com for details. DEADLINE: May 30, 2014.

Eastern State Penitentiary in Philadelphia, PA, seeks artist installation proposals for the 2015 season that will explore the history of the site and make connections between the complex history of the building and today’s criminal justice system and corrections policies. Visit www.easternstate.org/visit/site-rentals-special-arrangements/art-proposals, email Sean Kelley at sk@easternstate.org or call 215-236-5111 ext. 13 for details. DEADLINE: June 18, 2014.

Workshops/Conferences

The Summer Art Academy on the campus of Rocky Mountain College in Billings is offering classes taught by professional artists to artists, ages 8-14, June 9-13. Classes include: acrylic painting with Stephen Haraden; watercolor with Mana Lesman; drawing with Julie Pederson-Atkins and Grace Bailey; beading with Susan Germer; kite making with Terry Zee Lee and Drake Smith; printmaking with Tori Wardrip; pottery with Cassy Crafton Kramer; sculpture with Grace Frankforter; costume design with Sarah Brewer; and theatrical makeup techniques with Sarah Brewer (for ages 10-14). Call 406-259-6563 or visit www.mtsummerartacademy.com for details.

The C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls offers: Beaded Baby Moccasin, a workshop with Jackie Larson Bread April 26 and May 3 to learn to bead and construct a pair of baby moccasins using buckskin and various beading techniques; and “Unfinished Objects Work Session” with Jackie Larson Bread, May 10 and June 14. Contact Kim Kapalka at 406-727-8787 ext. 347 for registration and scholarship information.

The Sandpiper Art Gallery and Gift Shop in Polson offers Basic Metal Form Folding, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. May 10 (\$70); Joanne Simpson teaches Watercolor for the Terrified, 9 a.m.-noon, June 2-6 (\$125) and A Tempest in a Teapot, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. June 28-29 (\$50); and Impressionist Landscape Painting with Donna Bland, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. June 9-11 (\$215). Visit www.sandpiperartgallery.com or call 406-883-5956 for details.

The Nature Conservancy offers a plein air painting workshop with Monte Dolack at the Pine Butte Guest Ranch outside of Choteau Sept. 7-13 (\$2050). Call 406-466-2158 or email pinebutte@tnc.org to register.

The Montana Nonprofit Association’s classes include: Kim Klein’s “Creating an Upgrading Team” in Missoula May 1; and “Fundraising for Social Change” in Kalispell May 2. Kivi Leroux Miller offers “Communicating with a Clear, Consistent and Compelling Voice” in Billings, May 20; Helena, May 21; and Missoula, May 23. Richard Brewster presents “Business Modeling for Nonprofits: the Mission-Money Balance” in Helena June 3, and in Billings, June 4. Visit mtnonprofit.org or call 406-449-3717 for details.

Shawna Moore offers Encaustic Teacher Training/Advanced Study, April 28-May 1, in her Whitefish

Advocacy Resources

- The following list of resources is from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies:
- Advocacy Tools:
www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Tools/index.php
 - Why Should Government Support the Arts?
www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Tools/Why-Government-Support/index.php
 - The NASAA Advocate Series:
www.nasaa-arts.org/Publications/The-NASAA-Advocate.php
 - Federal Legislative Updates:
www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Federal-Updates/index.php



The top crowd-funding sites:

- Crowdrise (www.crowdrise.com): Provides a public source for charity fundraising
 - Grow VC (www.growvc.com): An international outfit that aims to connect profit-minded investors with entrepreneurs
 - Indiegogo (www.indiegogo.com): A preferred choice for filmmakers, musicians and artists
 - Kickstarter (www.kickstarter.com): The largest crowd-funding site, a haven for general-interest projects
 - Microryza (www.microryza.com): Allows anyone interested to fund scientific research
 - Peerbackers (www.peerbackers.com): Takes a business-oriented approach, catering to entrepreneurs and start-ups
 - RocketHub (www.rockethub.com): Offers exclusive real-world opportunities – e.g., gallery showings and musical showcases.
- From *The Costco Connection*, November 2012

studio. Refined Teaching (Oct. 20-24) is the final course offered for those who have completed the first course and for teachers with some experience. Each session is \$1,500. Summer workshop dates include Telluride, Colo. June 14-15; Basalt, Colo. June 21-22; and Jackson, Wyo. Aug. 22-24. Call 406-261-6528, email shawnamooreart@hotmail.com or visit www.shawnamoore.com for details.

The Hockaday Museum of Art in Kalispell offers Crits and Croissants: A Saturday Morning Artists’ Critique with Thomas G. Lewis, 10:30 a.m. May 10; and Hand Building with Clay with Sherry Wells, Saturdays June 14-28 and July 12 (for ages 15+). Numerous pre-school, home school, and after-school classes for students ages 7-14 are also available. The Summer Art Camp for kids age 7-14 runs June 24-27. Visit www.hockadaymuseum.org or call 406-755-5268 for details.

The Red Lodge Clay Center offers adult clay classes Wednesday mornings through June 4; advanced adult clay classes Mondays through June 16; a Kids Clay Camp, June 23-26; and an Adult Clay Camp July 14-18. Call 406-446-3993, email programs@redlodgeclaycenter.com or visit www.redlodgeclaycenter.com for details.

The Rich’s Montana Guest Ranch and Alpine Artisans in Seeley Lake offer two painting workshops at first annual “Painting for a Dream” collaboration: Dream 1: Plein Air Oils with Tricia Bass, May 22-23 (\$200); and Dream 2: Watercolor with Karen Leigh, May 24-25 (\$200). Lodging and meals extra. Call 406-677-2317 or visit www.alpineartisans.org or www.richranch.com for details. DEADLINE: \$20 discount offered till May 1.

Two Rivers Gallery in Big Timber offers a five-day creative watercolor workshop with Sarah Peterson, May 19-23. Call 406-932-5532 or email donna@tworiversgallery.org for information.

Zootown Arts Community Center in Missoula offers “Seeing Through My Eyes,” a plaster gauze mask-making class with Kendall Rogers, May 18 and 25 (\$45). A printshop orientation is the first Thursday of every month. Poetry Night is held 8-9 p.m. every third Tuesday, and a fiction-writing workshop is held 7-9 p.m. every other Wednesday. Call 406-549-7555 or visit www.zootownarts.org.

Montana Watercolor Society offers “Elevate Your Watercolor Expertise” with Diana Brady, June 21-22 at the Lewistown Art Center. DEADLINE: June 1, 2014. MTWS also offers “Play, Incubate, Make It Your Own,” a workshop with Jean Pederson, Oct. 2-5 (\$475 non-members; \$400 members). Call 406-549-2072, email mtwsvoermans2@yahoo.com or visit www.montanawatercolorssociety.org for registration and scholarship details.

The Missoula Art Museum offers Paper Marbling with Shelly Reisig and Martha Elizabeth, May 10 (\$18-\$20); and Personality Hats with Nancy Rishoff, June 28 (\$13.50-\$15). Call 406-728-0447 or visit www.missoulaartmuseum.org for details.

The International Traditional Games Society will lead a three-day certification clinic at Glacier Park Lodge in East Glacier Park, June 30-July 2. In the Level I clinic, students will learn games of intuition and physical skill, including the historical significance of the games and how to craft the game pieces; in Level II, students will craft additional game pieces; and in Level III, students will assist with teaching and be provided with a mentor for self-analysis of Native games knowledge (\$250). Contact games@traditionalnativegames.org or visit www.traditionalnativegames.org for details.

The Archie Bray Foundation in Helena offers “Altered and Ornamented” with Kristen Kieffer, May 23-25 (\$335); “This is a Stick Up! Decal Making from Start to Finish” with Ayumi Horie and Andy Brayman, June 9-20 (\$795); and “China Paint: Form and Illusion” with Kurt Weiser, July 14-18 (\$495). Visit www.archiebray.org, email archiebray@archiebray.org or call 406-443-3502.

The Blackwood Friedland Studio’s “Master Painting Workshops 2014 Series” features Marc Hanson’s five-day “Capturing Nature’s Essence” in oil, acrylic or pastel plein air landscape workshop in Bozeman Aug. 6-10 (\$575). Call 406-586-4484 or email sblackwood@mcn.net to register. Visit www.howardfriedland.com or www.susanblackwood.com.

The Stumptown Art Studio in Whitefish offers “Simple Pendant,” a precious metal clay workshop with Kris Kramer, May 5; “Springy Trees,” a mixed media art day with Brooke Nelson, May 12; “Intro to Glass Fusing” with Melanie Drown, May 14. Clayground Time with Stephanie Seguin, and Mosaic-Making Workshops with Deb Stika can be scheduled. Wild Women Wednesday is May 21, The Cultural and Art History Club meets the second Tuesday of each month, and Canvas and Cocktails are 6:30-9:30 p.m. on the final Friday of each month. Call 406-862-5929 or visit www.stumptownartstudio.org for details.

Richard Notkin and Jason Walker conduct a two-week workshop, “Ceramic Imagery: Relief Carving and Surface Illustration,” at La Meridiana International School of Ceramics in Tuscany, Italy, July 13-26. The focus is narrative imagery in clay, and visual poetry in clay is the goal. A day tour of Florence is included. Visit www.lameridiana.fi.it.

The Holter Museum of Art in Helena offers “Corks and Canvas” 6:30-8:30 p.m. May 2 (\$35-\$40). Call 406-442-6400, email info@holtermuseum.org or visit www.holtermuseum.org for details.

The Clay Studio of Missoula offers “Form and Surface: Creating Unique Utilitarian Work” with Sarah Jaeger, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Aug. 2 (\$85-\$95). Call 406-543-0509 or email info@theclaystudioofmissoula.org to register. Visit www.theclaystudioofmissoula.org for details.

The Yellowstone Art Museum in Billings offers “Appalachian Egg Baskets” with Marsha Hill, May 17 (\$55). Call 406-256-6804, email lindas5252@yahoo.com or visit www.artmuseum.org for details.

The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls offers Drawing for Seniors (60+ adults) with Dan Price, Tuesdays; Tai Chi classes; and Pottery Open Studio. Call 406-727-8255 or visit www.the-square.org for details.

The National Center for Creative Aging (NCCA) offers free online training (12-15 hours) on how to lead lifelong-learning programs in the arts. The self-guided program topics include the aging process, the creative potential of older adults, and how to identify community partners in aging, arts and health-related services. It provides guidance on how to plan, implement and evaluate arts programming for older populations. Visit www.creativeaging.org.

Grants/Fellowships

First Peoples Fund announces its 2014 Cultural Capital Program to aid artists in developing local networks for leveraging other resources and will provide technical assistance and capacity-building support, as needed for the master artist/teacher. The program is designed to support previous year Community Spirit Award recipients, allowing them to commit more time in teaching and sharing ancestral knowledge and practices. Grant amount is \$5,000. Call 605-348-0324, email miranne@firstpeoplesfund.org or visit www.firstpeoplesfund.org for details. DEADLINE: Sept. 1, 2014.

The Gilder Lehrman Fellowships are open to doctoral candidates, postdoctoral scholars, college and university faculty, and independent scholars working in American history. For details, call 646-366-9666 ext. 29 or email fellowships@gilderlehrman.org. DEADLINE: May 1, 2014.

The Historical Museum at Fort Missoula is accepting applications for the annual Preserving Missoula County History Grant program. The program is open to all Missoula County non-profit organizations involved in historic preservation and interpretation projects in Missoula County. Contact Dr. Robert M. Brown at 406-728-3476 or email ftmslamuseum@montana.com for details. DEADLINE: June 15, 2014.

The Institute of Museums and Libraries (IMLS) offers the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grant that supports projects to recruit and educate the next generation of librarians, faculty and library leaders; and to support early career research. It also assists in the professional development of librarians and library staff. Contact Mary Alice Ball at 202-653-4730 or email mball@imls.gov for information. DEADLINE: September 16, 2014. The IMLS also seeks nominations for recipients of the National Medal for Museum and Library Service. Contact Katherine Maas at 202-653-4798 or email kmaas@imls.gov for information. DEADLINE: October 15, 2014. Visit www.imls.gov/applicants.

The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Preservation and Access offers Preservation Assistance Grants for projects that begin January 2015. Grants help small and mid-sized institutions improve their ability to preserve and care for their humanities collections. DEADLINE: May 1, 2014. Also, the Humanities Collections and Reference Resources program supports projects that provide an essential underpinning for scholarship, education, and public programming in the humanities. Funding from this program strengthens efforts to extend the life of important collections of books and manuscripts, photographs, sound recordings and moving images, archeological and ethnographic artifacts, art and material culture, and digital objects. DEADLINE: July 17, 2014. Call 202-606-8570, email preservation@neh.gov, or visit www.neh.gov/grants for details.

The National Endowment for the Humanities

Division of Research offers fellowship support to individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Projects may be at any stage of development. DEADLINE: May 1, 2014. Grants for Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions support fellowships at institutions devoted to advanced study and research in the humanities. DEADLINE: Aug. 14, 2014. Call 202-606-8200 or visit www.neh.gov/grants/research/.

The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Education Programs offers Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges and Universities to strengthen and enrich humanities education and scholarship at tribal colleges and universities. Call 202-606-8471 or email hi@neh.gov for details. DEADLINE: June 26, 2014. Bridging Cultures at Community Colleges provides grants to strengthen and enrich humanities education and scholarship at community colleges or community college systems. Call 202-606-8380 or email bccc@neh.gov for details. DEADLINE: Aug. 21, 2014. Visit www.neh.gov/grants/education/.

The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Public Programs offers the Digital Projects for the Public program that supports projects such as websites, mobile applications, games, and virtual environments that significantly contribute to the public’s engagement with humanities ideas. DEADLINE: June 11, 2014. Media Project Development Grants and Production Grants support interactive digital media, film and television projects and radio projects that engage the public in the exploration of humanities ideas. DEADLINE: August 13, 2014. The Museums, Libraries, and Cultural Organization Planning Grants and Implementation Grants provide support to organizations that produce public programs in the humanities. DEADLINE: August 13, 2014. Call 202-606-8269, email publicpgms@neh.gov or visit www.neh.gov/grants/public for details.

The National Endowment for the Arts announces application guidelines are now available for fiscal year 2015 funding programs including Art Works and Challenge America Fast-Track. Art Works supports the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, and promotes public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the arts, and the strengthening of communities through the arts. DEADLINE: July 24, 2014. Challenge America Fast-Track supports small and mid-sized organizations that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations. DEADLINE: May 8, 2014. Visit www.arts.gov.

The National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Start-up Grants program supports the planning stages of innovative projects beginning May 2015 that promise to benefit the humanities. Email odh@neh.gov or visit www.neh.gov for details. DEADLINE: Sept. 11, 2014.

The National Endowment for the Humanities offers Summer Stipends for projects beginning May 2015 that support individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Summer Stipends support continuous full-time work on a humanities project for a period of two months. Call 202-606-8200, email stipends@neh.gov or visit www.neh.gov/grants/research/summer_stipends for details. DEADLINE: Sept. 30, 2014.

Humanities Montana offers three specific opportunities in 2014: Speakers in the Schools and Speaker Bureau programs that focus on Montana 1864-1889; grants to help underwrite exhibits, conferences, book festivals, historical reenactments, and other events focused on Montana’s 150th anniversary; and Montana’s Reflect program and Gracious Space facilitators which assist Montana communities in discussing challenges such as the impact of energy development, bridging cultures, or cooperating on community projects. The next regular and major grant application deadlines are May 20 and Aug. 20, 2014. Visit www.humanitiesmontana.org or call 406-243-6022 for details.

The Cultural Exchange Fund, an initiative of the Association of Performing Arts Presenters, is a travel subsidy program that assists U.S.-based presenters in building partnerships with international touring artists, companies and their collaborators. In promoting cross-cultural arts programming, travel to the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, and Africa is strongly encouraged. The maximum amount awarded per individual organization or artist is \$2,000. Group travel subsidies of three or more presenters are also available, with a maximum award of \$10,000. All applicants must be members of the Association of Performing Arts Presenters. Applications must be submitted online through the Association of Performing Arts Presenters website: www.apap365.org. DEADLINE: Aug. 14, 2014.



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National arts resources

- **National Endowment for the Arts:** 1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20506; 202-682-5400; www.artsendow.gov; email: webmgr@arts.endow.gov.
- **National Endowment for the Humanities:** 1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20506; 202-606-8400; www.neh.fed.us.
- **Arts 4 All People:** www.arts4allpeople.org; email: a4ap@wallacefunds.org.
- **Americans for the Arts:** 1000 Vermont Ave. NW, 12th Floor, Washington, DC 20005; 202-371-2830; www.artusa.org.
- **American Association of Museums:** 1571 Eye St. NW, Ste. 400, Washington, DC 20005; 202-289-1818; www.aam-us.org.
- **National Trust for Historic Preservation:** 1785 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036; 202-588-6000; www.nationaltrust.org.
- **ADA Services Unit:** U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 1801 L St. NW, Rm. 9024, Washington, DC 20507; 202-663-4900 or 800-669-4000 for employment questions; www.eeoc.gov/facts.
- **New York Foundation for the Arts:** 155 Avenue of the Americas, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10013-1507; 212-366-6900; www.nyfa.org.
- **Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board:** 1331 F St. NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20004; 800-872-2253; www.access-board.gov.
- **National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC):** 800-346-2742 or 800-344-5405 for assistive technology product information.

Job Opportunities

The Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture in Bozeman is hiring a new development coordinator. This dynamic individual will foster donors, write grants, grow the Emerson’s membership base, and plan events. Call Susan Denson-Guy at 406-587-9797 ext. 102 or email susan@theemerson.org for additional details.

The WaterWorks Art Museum in Miles City seeks candidates for the position of executive director. Skills should include strong leadership abilities, effective oral and writing communication, a record of success in fundraising, and an accomplished record of developing exhibitions and managing art education programs. Salary is negotiable and depends upon experience; position is open until filled. For a complete job description and online application, visit wtrworks.org/jobs/.

The WYO Theater in Sheridan, Wyo. seeks an executive director to oversee and manage its historic 483-seat theater and new “Black Box” theater. The performing arts venue attracts all genres of music, local events and productions, as well as arts education opportunities. The director will collaborate with the College Theater program and lead the organization in fundraising and expansion of the adjoining “Hallmark” spaces. No phone inquiries. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Visit www.wyothater.com/ed_position.html.

Performing Arts

Miss Linda’s School of Dance in Great Falls announces its “Summer Dance Study” (June 16-20) with instructors Daniel Cruz, jazz and hip hop, MariaJose Ramon Ros, ballet, and Dexter Jones, tap. Also available: five weeks of summer lessons for students ages 8 and up (June 11-July 25); a ballet seminar (Aug. 11-13); and Cecchetti classes (June 10-July 31). Call 406-761-8876 or visit www.misslindasdance.com for specifics.

The Studio Centre in Great Falls offers a musical theater camp for grades 1-6 and 7-12 (July 7-10) led by professionals (\$90). Call 406-761-8876 or visit www.thestudiocentregf.com for specifics.

The ZooTown Fringe Festival in Missoula seeks artists for its second annual event Aug. 13-17. The festival is a non-juried, uncensored, open-access performing arts smorgasbord bridging experimental artists together with adventurous audiences. The fee is \$50 if paid by April 30; \$75 if paid by June 30; or \$100 if paid by July 15. Call 406-544-4606.

Camp Equinox, held at Bozeman Summit School, is accepting registration and scholarship applications for its 19th Summer Theatre Day Camp. Two separate month-long sessions for kids going into grades 1-8 are offered: Session I, June 16-July 10; and Session II, July 21-August 14. Classes include acting, musical theatre, comedy improvisation, Shakespeare, dance, puppetry, play writing, hip-hop, costume and set design, and more. Fees are \$645 for kids going into grades 3-8; \$415 for kids going into 1st and 2nd grades; and scholarships are offered to families in need. Call 406-522-7623 or visit www.campequinox.com for details. DEADLINE: Full tuition is due May 15, 2014.

Drumset Master Class, for experienced drummers, will be a 30-spot one-day class at Hell Creek Music and More in Glendive June 8. The class involves warm-up exercises, solo techniques, songwriting, pedal techniques, and creating signature fills. The \$100 fee includes sticks, a drum DVD instructional video, and instruction from Vinny and Carmine Appice. Call 406-377-7977.

The Six String Theory Competition for guitar, bass, piano/keyboards or drums is open for YouTube submissions. Hosted by Grammy-winning guitarist/producer Lee Ritenour, the fourth annual competition offers prizes valued over \$600,000 to four winners, and includes professional performing and recording opportunities, educational scholarships, mentoring, and prizes. Visit www.sixstringtheory.com. DEADLINE: May 15, 2014.

The Green Dot Journey Composer Competition seeks pieces written for violin and piano. The ten winners, one from each of ten U.S. and Canadian regions, will premiere their compositions in Reno, NV, in August. The pieces will then be performed in concert programs across the U.S., Canada and the British Isles as part of this art gallery and house concert tour, starting Sept. 1, 2014. Call Vanessa Porter at 775-342-9395, email vanessa@greendotjourney.com or visit www.greendotjourney.com. DEADLINE: June 1, 2014.

The Billings Symphony Orchestra and Choral, in collaboration with the Billings Gazette, seeks YouTube auditions for the “Country Idol” contest. Single or duo country genre vocalist(s), with or without acoustic instruments, may submit a cover or original song. Six finalists will be chosen to record at the Gazette’s “Studio Enjoy” and the performance will be put online at www.billingsgazette.com. Finalists will perform one classic country song at the 42nd annual Symphony in the Park June 29. The contestants with the most online votes will win the chance to perform with the Billings Symphony at the Alberta Bair Theatre March 14, 2015. Call 406-252-3610 or visit www.billingssymphony.org. DEADLINE: May 15, 2014.

The Fort Peck Summer Theatre, for students grades 3-12 and of all performing levels, offers total theater immersion plus all of the fun of a summer camp July 29-Aug. 7. It is the only performing arts program of its type in northeast Montana. Professional theatre counselors guide performers in finding expression and fulfillment on stage and in the classroom. Financial aid opportunity is available. Call 406-228-9216 or visit www.fortpecktheatre.org for information.

The Big Horn Mountain Festival, July 11-13, at the Johnson County Fairgrounds in Buffalo, Wyo., seeks mandolin, banjo, guitar and fiddle contestants. Mandolin and banjo contest winners are guaranteed a slot at the Walnut Valley Festival in Winfield, Kansas with entry fees paid by the Big Horn Mountain Festival (sorry, this prize is not available to fiddle or guitar contest winners). Call 307-684-5519, email info@bighornmountainfestivalal.com or visit www.bighornmountainfestival.com.

The Arts Council of Big Sky seeks artists for the 2014 “Music in the Mountains” summer concert series, June 26-August 28. Call 406-995-2742 or visit www.bigskyarts.org for details.

The Montana Cowboy Poetry Gathering and Western Music Rendezvous in Lewistown seeks performers for the 29th annual event Aug. 15-16. Contact Charlotte Carroll at charlihawk@gmail.com. EARLY DEADLINE: July 15, 2014.

The Crown of the Continent Guitar Workshop at the Flathead Lake Lodge in Bigfork is Aug. 24-31. Lee Ritenour and Dennis Koster are artists-in-residence. Workshops are geared for beginners to professionals and include two new classes: “The Versatile Guitarist” with Matt Smith, and “Rock Fusion” with James Hogan. Other instructors include Dennis McCumber, Jeff McErlain, Tobias Hurwitz, Jody Fisher, Mark Dziuba, Andrew Leonard, Doug Smith, Bret Boyer and Susan Mazer. Ten scholarships of up to \$3,000 will be awarded to guitar students, teachers and performers who reside in the greater Flathead Valley area (deadline for submission is May 8, 2014). Call 855-855-5900, email info@cocguitarfoundation.org or visit www.cocguitarfoundation.org for details. EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: March 31, 2014.

The **Targhee Music Camp** in Alta, WY, offers musicians of wide-ranging ability levels to take lessons from world-class musicians. In addition to jam sessions, workshops and concerts, classes will be offered for guitar, mandolin, banjo, bass, fiddle, singing, and songwriting. Confirmed artists include: Danny Barnes, Jeff Austin, Joe Walsh, Grant Gordy, Ben Winship, Roy Andrade, Dan Miller, Tom Murphy and the Lomas Project Band. The 9th annual event takes place Aug. 4-7, just before the 27th annual Grand Targhee Bluegrass Festival Aug. 8-10. Visit www.targheemusiccamp.com.

The overnight radio show, **Coast to Coast AM**, features selections from emerging artists. The show, which claims to be the most listened to overnight radio program in North America, airs on more than 560 stations in the U.S., as well as in Canada, Mexico and Guam, and is heard by nearly three million weekly listeners. Produced CDs and authorization to play may be mailed to: Tom Danheiser, Premiere Radio Networks, 15260 Ventura Blvd., 5th Floor, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403. For more details visit www.coasttocoastam.com.

Literature and Playwriting

Valerie Harms offers “Publishing in Today’s Scene” at the Granite County Museum in Philipsburg, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. May 3 (\$100). Workshop topics include tips on getting published and independent publishing (taking matters into your own hands). Exercises, lively dialogue and handouts will be available. Call 406-407-2190 or email montanaconnections@gmail.com for details.

The School for Advanced Research (SAR) seeks nominations for the J.I. Staley Prize given to a living author for a book that exemplifies outstanding scholarship and writing in anthropology. The award recognizes innovative works that go beyond traditional frontiers and dominant schools of thought in anthropology and add new dimensions to our understanding of the human species. The Prize carries a cash award of \$10,000. Call 505-954-7201, email staley@sarsf.org or visit www.sarweb.org for details. DEADLINE: October 1, 2014.

Lost Horse Press in Sandpoint, ID is accepting submissions for the Idaho Prize for Poetry 2014. This annual, national competition offers \$1,000 plus publication by Lost Horse Press for a book-length poetry manuscript. Call 208-255-4410, email losthorsepress@mindspring.com or visit www.losthorsepress.org for guidelines. DEADLINE: May 15, 2014.

Residencies

The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls offers an Artist in Residence program for an emerging, mid-career or professional artist. Self-directed artists in any discipline will enjoy a 1,100 square foot studio while gaining vital teaching experience in the K-12 system. A \$4,800 stipend is included. Contact Jeff Kuratnick at jeffk@the-square.org or visit www.the-square.org for details. DEADLINE: May 30, 2014.

Resources

Art Network teaches artists the fine art of marketing art in today’s economy. As art advocates, they offer career advice to take artists to the next level of success via three books available on eBook or Kindle. Visit www.artmarketing.com.

Media Arts

The Focus On Ability Short Film Competition in Sydney, Australia is open to entrants from the United States. The competition highlights the abilities and achievements of people with disabilities. Entry is free and the winners are decided via a team of industry professionals and online votes. The winner receives two roundtrip tickets to Sydney, a week’s accommodation, \$1,000 (AUS dollars), and two seats at the Fox Studios for the awards ceremony. Contact ryan.goodwin@novaemployment.com.au or visit www.focusonabilityusa.com for details. DEADLINE: June 30, 2014.

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MAC GRANTS & SERVICES

Artist’s Innovation Awards

The Montana Arts Council launched this awards program to honor the innovative ideas, practices and the contributions of Montana artists. This application can only be completed online at art.mt.gov. The next application deadline will be announced in 2015.

Artists in Schools/Communities Grants

The Artist in Schools in Communities Grant Program for FY15 will open on April 15, 2014 for arts learning projects occurring between July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015. Please read the FY15 guidelines carefully, as funding categories and guidelines have been revised from FY14. First-time applicants or anybody wishing to discuss an idea for an arts learning project are welcome to call Emily Kohring, Director of Arts Education at (406) 444-6522 or email her at ekohring@mt.gov to discuss your application.

The Arts Education program contains three distinct components which provide participatory experiences in arts learning that increase or strengthen participants’ knowledge and skills in the arts.

1. Artist visits: The artist visits program encompasses visits lasting from one to four days with no more than four hours of contact time per day.
2. Residencies: Short-term residencies last one to four weeks, or a total of five to 20 days over a longer period of time. Long-term residencies are residencies of five weeks or longer, up to one year.
3. Special projects: This funding broadly supports the creation of projects that establish, expand or advance both school curriculum and educational arts programming. Projects that support and encourage the community’s lifelong learning, appreciation and enjoyment of the arts are also funded.

The Montana Arts Council awards grants to Montana organizations that are nonprofit and exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(a), which include the 501(c)(3) designation of the Internal Revenue Code, or are units of government, educational institutions or local chapters of tax-exempt national organizations.

Arts Education Artist Registry

The Arts Education program supports a wide range of residencies by professional working artists and local or regional arts organizations (touring or locally based). Activities are hands-on and process-oriented. The artist must be able to clearly communicate the concepts and skills of the chosen art form and relate well to people in a variety of educational settings.

Deadlines are ongoing. To apply visit MAC’s website at <http://art.mt.gov> or call the MAC Arts Education Hotline at 800-282-3092.

Cultural and Aesthetic Project Grants

In 1975, the Montana Legislature set aside a percentage of the Coal Tax to restore murals in the Capitol and support other cultural and aesthetic projects. Grant funds are derived from the interest earned on this Cultural Trust.

Any person, association, group or governmental agency may apply. All applications must, however, be officially sponsored by a governmental entity. Requirements include a 1:1 match in cash or in-kind goods and services for Special Projects Under \$4,500, Special Projects and Operational Support. Capital expenditures require a 3:1 match of cash or in-kind goods and services. This application can only be completed online – go to MAC’s website at <http://art.mt.gov>. The application deadline is August 1, 2014 for FY 2016-2017.

Montana’s Circle of American Masters

Montana’s Circle of American Masters in Visual Folk and Traditional Arts celebrates the contributions of Montana’s master artists. A member of Montana’s Circle of American Masters is a person who, throughout their lifetime of work in the traditional arts, has created a notable body of work. Of significant cultural and artistic stature, their work is representative of the historic, traditional and innovative arts and handcrafts distinctive to the state and is worthy of note on both a state and national level. Deadlines for this program are ongoing. For nomination materials, visit the MAC website at http://art.mt.gov/artists/artists_masters.asp or contact Cindy Kittredge at ckittredge@mt.gov or by phone at 406-468-4078.

Public Value Partnerships

The Montana Arts Council is pleased to continue operating support grants for Montana non-profit arts organizations under a program titled Public Value Partnerships. Public value partners are defined as organizations making a positive difference in the individual and collective lives of the citizens of the state through the arts, and worthy of state investment. These grants fund Montana non-profit arts organizations who have had their 501(c)(3) status for a minimum of five years and at least a half-time paid staff member. Current guidelines are available on the MAC website. The current grant period runs from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2015.

The next round of grant applications will be due in Spring 2015. Visit <http://art.mt.gov> for more information.

Strategic Investment Grants for the Arts

Strategic Investment Grants for the Arts are given throughout the year to provide funds for:

- Training and Network Development opportunities that help build art skills, healthy arts careers and businesses.

- Market Expansion to help increase exposure and improve marketing or promotion, opportunities for exhibition or performance and sales.
- Public Outreach Arts Activities for ongoing and one-time arts activities by arts organizations and artists that help firmly anchor the arts in the greater community.
- Challenges and Emergencies to provide

assistance for artists or arts organizations experiencing catastrophic-level emergencies that threaten their ability to continue their work, and demand prompt and immediate attention.

Artists, 501(c)(3) arts organizations and Preschool-12 teachers are eligible to apply. 1:1 matching grants are available up to \$1,000 and decisions will be dictated by the availability of funds and the nature of the requests. Awards are made directly by the council and applications are reviewed monthly.

This application can only be completed online – go to MAC’s website at <http://art.mt.gov>. The application deadline is the 15th of the month (or first business day after the 15th if that falls on a weekend).

Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP)

MAP, a workforce development program for Market Ready Certification, helps artists map a sustainable future by aiding them in preparing the tools they need for a wider market place and to build a successful business in art.

MAP connects regional groups of artists with learning opportunities like workshops, mentorships, internships, and studio-based work. The cohorts commit to monthly meetings to work on developing tools to become market ready. Each cohort is guided by a certified MAP coach and receives information and guidance from the MAC Market Development Specialist. The monthly meetings provide an opportunity to bring samples of artwork, discuss problems, and share recent successes.

For more information contact Cindy Kittredge at ckittredge@mt.gov or 406-468-4078.

Grant guidelines and applications can be downloaded at <http://art.mt.gov>



Help us find technical assistance articles for State of the Arts

The Montana Arts Council is requesting submissions from artists and organizations on practical professional development tips for artists for upcoming issues of *State of the Arts*.

Topics might include:

- “How to” articles (i.e. marketing tips for the beginning visual artist, how to find a publisher for your first book, doing your own PR, writing an effective artist statement or how to make a CD).

- Innovative arts education projects or statistics.

Upcoming deadlines are: June 1 for the July/August issue, and August 1 for the September/October issue.

Please limit submissions to 500 words. Call MAC at 406-444-6510 or email mac@mt.gov before submitting stories.

ARTS & CULTURE: Statewide Service Organizations

Humanities Montana, 311 Brantly Hall, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812; 406-243-6022; www.humanitiesmt.org. Presents humanities programs, awards grants, conducts speakers bureau, reading/discussion groups and teacher programs.

MT Art Education Assn., President: Marvin Pauls; mpauls@mcps.k12.mt.us; www.maeamt.org. Provides professional information and development for art teachers in all areas.

MT Art Therapy Assn., President Elect: Steve Thomas; sgtartx@yahoo.com; montanaarttherapyassociation.org. Connects art therapists, educates the public, and conducts art exhibits to emphasize the healing nature of art making.

MT Arts, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551. Provides administrative services for statewide organizations and some local groups and acts as a fiscal agent for emerging arts organizations.

MT Assn. of Symphony Orchestras, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551; www.montanasymphonies.org. Provides resource sharing, imports musicians and conducts seminars and conferences.

MT Center for the Book, c/o Humanities Montana, 311 Brantly Hall, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812; 406-243-6022, ask for Ken Egan. Organizes public forums featuring Montana authors; and promotes reading, book arts and publishing.

MT China Painting Art Assn., 1202 Hauser Blvd., Helena, MT 59601; 406-442-9504. Promotes the art of china painting, porcelain and glass; sponsors a yearly public show featuring nationally known teachers.

MT Community Foundation, 1 N. Last Chance Gulch, Suite 1, Helena, MT 59601; 406-443-8313; email: mtcf@mt.net; www.mtcf.org. Maintains endowments for nonprofit organizations and awards grants.

MT Cultural Advocacy, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551. Coalition of arts and cultural agencies that lobbies the state legislature to maintain funding of cultural agencies and oversees legislation affecting Montana’s cultural sector.

MT Dance Arts Assn., Charlene White, 718 Logan St., Helena, MT 59601; 406-443-6519; creativeartscenter@hotmail.com; www.montanadancearts.org. Sponsors a fall and spring workshop for young Montana dancers, administers a summer scholarship program and presents a summer teachers’ workshop.

MT Arts Association, Inc., c/o Ron Paulick, 708 56th St. So., Great Falls, MT; 406-453-4076. Assists artists in all disciplines through educational projects, information, and workshops.

MT Music Educators Assn., President John Combs, 1500 Clarkia Lane, Missoula, MT 59802; jcombs@mcps.k12.mt.us; www.mtmusiced.org. Provides professional information and development for music teachers in all areas.

MT Painters Alliance, Janet Sullivan, 4839 Scott Allen Dr., Missoula, MT; www.mtpaintersalliance.com. A statewide organization comprised of professional outdoor painters who seek to showcase the vast variety and spectacular beauty of Montana.

MT Performing Arts Consortium, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551; www.mtperformingarts.org. Supports performing arts presenting in large and small communities; sponsors an annual conference showcasing performing arts; facilitates block-booking; and provides quick-grants to rural presenters.

MT Preservation Alliance, 120 Reeder’s Alley, Helena, MT 59601; 406-457-2822; www.preservemontana.org. Provides technical assistance and information on historic preservation issues through a circuit rider program. Publishes Preservation Montana.

MT Public Television Assn., PO Box 503, White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645; 406-547-3803. Supports efforts of Montana’s rural low-power public television stations; provides technical assistance in video production and station application procedures and sponsors an annual conference.

MT Theatre Education Assn. (MTEA), President Mike Hesford, Jefferson HS, Boulder, MT; school 406-225-3317; cell 406-224-1598; mike.hesford@jhs.k12.mt.us. A

K-12 education resource for Montana theatre educators; presents yearly at MEA-MFT and is affiliated with EDTA.

MT Thespians, Chapter Director, Sarah DeGrandpre, 2120 S. Reserve St., PMB 136, Missoula, MT 59801-6451; 406-728-2400 ext. 8052; SarahDeGrandpre@montanastatethespians.org; www.montanastatethespians.org. Recognizing and rewarding excellence in high school theatre.

MT Watercolor Society, PO Box 3002, Missoula, MT 59807; Sally Angove, membership chair, 406-442-4657; email: sangove@bresnan.net; www.montanawatercolor.society.org. Sponsors two annual workshops, a yearly Open Members show, a national Juried Watermedia Exhibition, and a quarterly newsletter.

Museum and Art Gallery Directors Assn., 2112 First Avenue North, Great Falls, MT 59401; 406-761-1797; email: montanaart@bresnan.net; www.magdamt.wordpress.com. Supports visual art centers and galleries through traveling exhibitions, technical assistance and an annual conference.

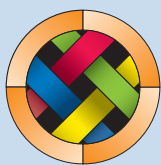
Museums Assn. of Montana, MT Historical Society, 225 N. Roberts, Helena, MT 59620; 406-444-4710; www.montanamuseums.org. Supports museums of all disciplines through annual conferences, quarterly newsletters and technical assistance with museum issues.

Rocky Mountain Photo Club, 1518 Howell St., Missoula, MT 59802; 406-728-5374. Provides photography education, professional information, workshops and opportunities for members to show work in galleries.

VSA Montana, PO Box 7225, Missoula, MT 59807; 406-549-2984; www.vsamontana.org. Provides information, technical assistance and workshops on working with differently-abled constituencies.

Writer’s Voice of the Billings Family YMCA, 402 N. 32nd St., Billings, MT 59101; 406-248-1685. Assists emerging writers in artistic and professional development; supports accomplished writers; provides public programs that challenge the traditional definition of literary arts.

| | |
|-------|---|
| 1 | NEA Nominee Jane Chu; MAC Notes; Helen Elliott Retires; Bill Ohrmann Book and Retrospective |
| 2 | Arni's Addendum; Helen Elliott (cont.) |
| 3-4 | Congrats; Transitions |
| 5 | Big Productions; Condolences |
| 6 | Belt and The Bard; Arts Ed Briefs |
| 7 | Beehives of Creativity; Teresa Heil; Impact of a Field Trip |
| 8 | Film Clips; Civil War 150; Poet Laureate |
| 9 | About Music |
| 10-11 | About Books |
| 12 | Native News; <i>Off the Path</i> Anthology |
| 13 | Yellowstone Art Museum's 50th; Auction Action for Museums in Missoula, Billings and Great Falls |
| 14-17 | Arts Calendar |
| 17-18 | Art Exhibitions |
| 19 | About Visual Artists; MAP Program |
| 20-21 | Social Media and the Arts |
| 22 | The Three Rs at Work; DUNS Numbers |
| 23 | Law and the Art World; Tech Talk |
| 24-27 | Opportunities |



STATE OF THE *Arts*



Premiere Dance Company board members and staff participated in a day-long workshop under MAC's The Art of Leadership program, led by Cinda Holt. Participants included (left to right): back row, Pearl Allen (staff), Scott Murphy, Erin Harris, Erin Inman, Rende Mackay and Kim Caldwell; and front row, Charlene White (artistic director), Chris Alke and Ondrea Dukart.

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State of Montana programs are available to all Montanans. Upon request, an alternative accessible format will be provided. Call 406-444-6449

May/June 2014



MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL

AN AGENCY OF STATE GOVERNMENT

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